Hafa Adai!

Firefighter allegedly punches woman, assaults 2 men. » PAGE 5

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24 DAYS BEFORE Christmas

# Saipan Tribune

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# Airport still on day operations

## » Night operations might resume tomorrow if all goes well

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
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REPORTER

The runway and taxiway of the Francisco C. Ada Saipan International Airport remained in the dark for the third night yesterday, with their lights still unfixed.

In a news briefing, Richard Cabrera, Guam's Antonio B. Won Pat International Airport electrician leader, said they are still looking at the same timeline to fix the problem—which is on Wednesday if everything goes well.

"Nothing new came about from our findings but the main trouble. We're going to leave that aside for now to try to get the runway and a portion of the taxiway [lit], so that night operations can resume," he said.

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**GIFT-GIVING**
Staff from the Division of Public Health Services-Maternal and Child Health Bureau wrap up toys to be given away for their gift-giving project this year. Children of families that they serve will get their presents on Dec. 7.
FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON

See related story on Page 2

# Bills to frustrate DPL's powers gain traction

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Bills to hamstring the powers of the Department of Public Lands are gaining traction among House committee members assigned to review these bills for possible introduction and action on the floor. Both House majority and minority bloc members are eyeing mandates to limit the authority of the DPL secretary, and possibly abolish the department that lawmakers believe has shown inconsistency with land policy and the need for an advisory board.

Lawmakers yesterday finalized a date for a public hearing for House Bill 19-82, which would abolish the Department of Public Lands and establish in its place the Marianas Lands Corp. with a board of trustees.

That hearing is set for next Monday, Dec. 7.

Lawmakers are also looking to uncover an alleged underreported use of lease revenues by the department that amount to the "millions" that should have been remitted to the Marianas Public Land Trust.

Rep. Edwin Aldan (R-Tinian), who

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# Local

## MCHB to give away gifts to families for Christmas

FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON

Through the Ayuda Network, Best Sunshine International, Ltd. donates $4,000 for the benefit of the Division of Public Health Services-Maternal and Child Health Bureau for their gift-giving project this year.

For Christmas this year, the Division of Public Health Services-Maternal and Child Health Bureau will be playing Santa, giving away gifts to the families that they serve.

As part of their monthly meeting with the families yesterday, the bureau had a gift-wrapping session where they wrapped about 300 toys that will be given away.

"For our Christmas party this year, the Maternal and Child Health Bureau under the Division of Public Health Services, in partnership with Ayuda Network, wanted to donate gifts to children with special health care needs and those that are unfortunate," said bureau administrator TaAnn Kabua.

Kabua said they already handed out about 40 toys to some families during their morning session yesterday. They will be distributing the rest of the gifts through their visits on Dec. 7.

The bureau serves around 400 families on average per year. The gifts are for children ages zero to 18. "This is the first time that we do this and we plan to do this every year," Kabua said.

Best Sunshine International, Ltd. staff helped with the gift-wrapping yesterday and presented a ceremonial check worth $4,000 for Ayuda Network.

"In partnership with Ayuda Network, we were able to get a donation from Best Sunshine as our major sponsor, as well as from Mariana Resort, Saipan Shipping, and Joeten Superstore," Kabua said.

According to BSI director for corporate social responsibility Geri Dela Cruz, the request for donation came from Ayuda Network.

"The mere mention of giving back and assisting in making a child's Christmas better than it was, of course we jumped on it," said Dela Cruz. "Especially after the storm hit us, a lot of families are still suffering and trying to recover and the last thing on their list could be a gift for their child. With this opportunity, we partnered with the Ayuda Network to assist Maternal Child Health Bureau in their project of giving gifts in their home visiting program."

Kabua said this is a positive partnership with Best Sunshine for the benefit of families.

"We are very fortunate that they wanted to help us with this initiative because we have millions of families across the nation that are in need right now and in the CNMI we have about 500. I'm glad that Best Sunshine was able to help us give them some gift throughout the holidays," Kabua said. ***(Fraulein Villanueva-Dizon)***

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# Suspect in $4.3M 'ice bust wants evidence suppressed

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The man arrested in connection with the biggest seizure of methamphetamine or "ice" in the Commonwealth now wants some of the evidence suppressed, saying they were obtained in violation of his constitutional rights.

Yuliu Liu, 36, stated that he never told any officer that there were drugs in his residence.

Liu was arrested with another man in July this year in connection with the seizure of "ice" worth between $3.2 million and $4.3million. He is being represented in the case by attorney Mark Hanson.

In his declaration in support of a motion to suppress evidence filed in the U.S. District Court for the NMI, Liu said he was in the passenger seat of a white van that was stopped by police on July 22, 2015, and that five police vehicles blocked the van in the front, back, and to the side. He said at least 10 police officers got out of the cars with their guns drawn and pointed at the van.

Liu said some of the officers shouted at him and the driver of the van, but it was in English and that they did not understand what they were saying.

"Officers approached the van, with their guns drawn and pointed at us," he said.

Police identified the driver as Liu's co-defendant, Zhenlin Fang.

Liu said officers approached, opened the door, pulled the driver out, threw him on the ground, and handcuffed him.

He said an officer approached the passenger side of the van and shattered the passenger window with a baton while he was still seated in the passenger seat.

"I turned away from the window and moved toward the driver's side to get down from the van," Liu said.

As he moved to the driver's side, officers grabbed him, pulled him out of the van, threw him on the ground, and handcuffed him with his hands behind his back.

Liu said he and the driver were put in the backseat of separate police cars and brought to a building where he was fingerprinted and then moved to a room with a table and some chairs.

Liu said after 30 minutes, one police officer and an interpreter came into the room. He said the officer told him that he was under arrest, then gave him a piece of paper that had some constitutional rights on it. The officer told Liu to read the paper, and to sign it if he understands.

Liu said after he read and signed the first four lines, the officer asked him if he wants to talk. Liu said he replied that he wants to remain silent and wait for an attorney. He said the officer told him to wait and think whether or not he wanted to talk.

Liu said after five minutes, the officer asked him where he stays so he told him the location of his house. He said the officer then asked if they can search his house.

"Because I thought that I had no choice, I said yes," Liu said.

He said the officer then filled out a form and told him to sign it.

Liu said the officers took him to his house, where they instructed him to open the door to his room. While the officers were searching the second room, Liu said they brought him inside and showed him something they found.

He said the officers asked, "How much is in here?"

Liu said he answered maybe 100 grams.

Liu pointed out that at no time prior to that did any officer ask him if there were drugs in his house.

"I never told any officer that there were drugs in my residence," he added.

In Liu's motion to suppress, Hanson said because the custodial interrogation of Liu and the consent obtained by government agents to search his residence were the product of constitutional violations, all statements and any other evidence obtained as a result of the warrantless search of his residence must be suppressed.

Hanson said Liu invoked his rights, his right to silence and his right to an attorney, prior to any request for consent to search his residence.

Hanson said the officer's continued questioning and his request for consent were improper under the law.

In the U.S. government's supplemental brief, assistant U.S. attorney Ross K. Naughton asserted that the court should resolve the Fourth Amendment claim by asking whether the consent was validly given, in keeping with the analysis that the government argued for in its earlier opposition brief.

Customs inspectors reportedly detected at the seaport warehouse last July 17 that an air-compressor from a shipment contained approximately over 23 lbs or 10 kilograms of methamphetamine. The air compressor was in a container from Guangzhou, China. That prompted federal and local authorities to make a follow-up investigation that led to the arrest of the defendants last July 22.

Authorities allegedly later found 130 grams of "ice" at Liu's house in Chalan Piao.

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# Drug court needs $317,189

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Judiciary has submitted a budget request of $317,189 to establish and fund a drug court on island.

In a Nov. 24 letter to the Senate and House, the Judiciary breaks down the funding needed for personnel and operating costs for a drug court that has been described as a common sense solution to drug addiction in the Commonwealth.

"No higher amount of due diligence could have been sought in timely preparing this budget proposal," Chief Justice Alexandro Castro and Presiding Judge Roberto Naraja wrote.

Castro

Naraja

The Judiciary requests $160,000 to cover wages and salaries of four full-time employees.

For fiscal year 2016, the drug court will need to hire a caseload coordinator/treatment professional, a probation officer, and two certified caseworkers.

The drug court will supplement these services with treatment providers of the CNMI Community Guidance Center.

Held in four phases of varying week-lengths, the program will be a yearlong intensive treatment regimen for those suffering critical addiction.

The program, with the help of enforcement agencies, plans to screen candidates for eligibility into the program, soon after arrest.

They need to screen candidates for two reasons: one, candidates who do not suffer from a high degree of drug use severity do not benefit from an intensive treatment environment. Secondly, candidates with major health problems are likely to experience severe difficulty in completing the program, the Judiciary notes.

The most effective program identifies those individuals "who pose a threat to public safety" where intervention will address both drug use and criminality.

After screening, specialists will determine how suitable candidates are to specific types of services and treatment.

As part of the program, participants will attend self-help sessions that teach coaching, employment, hospitality and family-based skills like child rearing, marriage, and acknowledging authority figures.

At each drug court session, caseworkers will explain each participant's progress based on random and observed drug testing done by the drug court probation officer.

If these fail, the drug court will administer sanctions like reducing curfew time, increasing the number of drug tests, or termination from the program, among others.

# US govt completes posting of notice of forfeiture action vs Dynasty's $2.5M

The U.S. government has completed the posting of a notice of forfeiture action pertaining to the $2.5 million that the owner of Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino has agreed to pay as part of the $3.03 million settlement of a criminal case.

Assistant U.S. attorney Russell H. Lorfing informed the U.S. District Court for the NMI yesterday that the notice of forfeiture action was posted on an official U.S. government Internet site (www.forfeiture.gov) for at least 30 consecutive days, beginning Sept. 18, 2015.

Lorfing said the publication of the notice is required by the Supplemental Rules for Admiralty or Maritime Claims and Asset Forfeiture Actions.

The notice stated that any person claiming a legal interest in the $2.5 million must file a verified claim with the court within 60 days from the first day of the Sept. 18, 2015, publication.

Last Aug. 21, the U.S. government filed a complaint for civil forfeiture that seeks the forfeiture of Tinian Dynasty's $2.5 million.

Hong Kong Entertainment (Overseas) Investments Ltd., owner of Tinian Dynasty, gave the $2.5 million to the U.S. government in the form of a check last July 23 pursuant to their non-prosecution deal.

The new owners of Hong Kong Entertainment and the U.S. government have agreed not to prosecute the criminal case against HKE in exchange for HKE's forfeiture of $3.03 million.

Last July, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona dismissed the criminal charges against HKE, based on the U.S. government's request.

In the forfeiture complaint, the prosecutors asked the court to order all persons having an interest in the funds to appear in court and explain why the forfeiture should not be decreed.

The parties entered into a non-prosecution agreement that requires Tinian Dynasty to forfeit $3,036,969.12.

Pursuant to the non-prosecution deal, HKE made a payment of $2.5 million to the U.S. government.

The U.S. government filed in November last year 158 criminal charges against HKE.

The charges are one count of conspiracy to cause a financial institution to fail to file a currency transaction report or CTR, 155 counts of failure to file a CTR, one count of failure to file a suspicious activity report, and one count of failure to maintain an effective anti-money laundering program. The indictment also has a notice of forfeiture. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

# Sablan named to 'ice' task force

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero has named Fiscal Committee chair Rep. Antonio Sablan to represent the House on the interagency War on Ice Task Force.

Guerrero told reporters yesterday that Sablan would aid in the enforcement of laws, and also help the new task force, as Sablan is the House chairman on Ways and Means.

Guerrero said the recently established CNMI drug court is intended to provide a program wherein those caught with drugs would be put in programs for rehabilitation so that the CNMI could reduce the number of drug users.

"You try to do away with the demand and the supply should be impacted because of that. As long as there is a demand, these traffickers will continue to bring in drugs or ice," he said.

Guerrero called it a multi-pronged operation. "One would be the users. The other would the traffickers. And the third one would be stopping it at our borders," he said.

In Nov. 17, acting governor Ralph DLG Torres sent a letter to the House to officially request a House representative on the task force. Gov. Eloy S. Inos created the task force through an executive in October.

Torres, in his letter, said the task force's inaugural meeting would be held on Dec. 4 at the Office of the Governor's conference room on Capital Hill.

## BILLS

*From Page 1*

chairs the Natural Resources Committee, said yesterday that they have tasked a legal counsel to review a thick packet of pending and existing leases under DPL.

"How do they collect the payments? Where does it go? How long does it take to get to the [Marianas Public Land Trust]? Those are the issues," Aldan told *Saipan Tribune*. "We are hearing that DPL keeps more than what is intended. We wanted to look at the existing leases and find out what is the number at the end of the fiscal year."

The committee's majority members—Reps. Joseph Leepan Guerrero, Angel Demapan, Aldan, and Felicidad Ogumoro—along with House minority bloc members Reps. Blas Jonathan Attao, Vinson Sablan, and Anthony Benavente attended the meeting yesterday.

On the bill to abolish DPL, a public hearing was held recently on Rota, where the mayor had shown support for the bill, Aldan said.

The secretaries of the departments of Public Lands and Lands and Natural Resources, along with the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, Marianas Visitors Authority, the CNMI Attorney General's Office, the Saipan and Northern Islands mayors, and other agencies like the Indigenous Affairs Office will be invited to speak at the hearing next week.

House Bill 19-79, which would establish legislative oversight over any proposed lease up to one hectare, will be discussed further today. Right now, any lease under five hectares does not need lawmakers' approval.

"We hear a lot of things that scare us, that DPL goes out and negotiates these things," Aldan said. "We don't want to interfere with the statute right now. But some of the ways these leases have been done is a public concern."

For one, DPL's proposed lease for a new dock in Puerto Rico—which has drawn the objection of the Commonwealth Ports Authority, as it already has jurisdiction over a dock in the area—caught Aldan by surprise.

"That's a very big issue. You have the dock on the other side and here comes DPL leasing public land to compete with our commercialized dock."

Aldan noted DPL can cause problems when it goes out of its way before informing other agencies of its intent.

### Report on existing leases

The issue of the alleged underreported use of lease revenues was tabled yesterday for discussion this afternoon.

In meetings between DPL Secretary Pete A. Tenorio and the Natural Resources Committee over the last few years, Tenorio has openly disclosed the existence of time certificate deposits, whose monies amount in the "millions" and should have, according to lawmakers, gone straight to the Marianas Public Lands Trust, *Saipan Tribune* learned.

It was discovered that separate $6 million and $8 million TCD accounts have been set up with the Bank of Saipan by DPL, *Saipan Tribune* learned.

In an interview, Guerrero said they are looking into whether there were misappropriations or errors in accounting.

"We are hoping tomorrow's NRC meeting will have this information," he said.

### Advisory board

For his part, Guerrero said the Inos administration should look into appointing an advisory board for DPL as mandated by Public Law 15-2.

DPL has been operating and making independent decisions directly related to the management and disposition of public lands without the presence, input, advice of, or vote by the Public Lands Advisory Board as required by Public Law 15-2.

With a board, the CNMI could have avoided the controversy over the RFP issue over public lands held by Kan Pacific, owners of the Mariana Resort & Spa in Marpi. The board would also be able to settle the upcoming renewal of public lands of other hotel investors, Guerrero said.

During the committee meeting yesterday, Guerrero also raised issue with a quarry in Kannat Tabla that he said DPL secures a month-to-month lease for. Guerrero asked why there was no competitive bid process for this quarry. He said the DPL secretary "is very gung ho with this request for proposal" policy but that it's been over a year now and the quarry has been maintained on a month-to-month lease.

Right now, the DPL secretary acts like both secretary and an advisory board, Guerrero later told reporters.

"He can't be judge and juror" at the same time, he said.

An email sent to DPL yesterday requesting comment on the lawmakers' concern was not responded to as of press time.

## AIRPORT

*From Page 1*

Cabrera said they might be able to turn the lights on tomorrow but they will still have to check throughout Wednesday if it will stay on.

"You need to give me time also to have those lights stay on so that I can further troubleshoot if there are problems outside the airfield. That way, we can prevent accidents and disasters [from] happening," Cabrera said.

The team from Guam, supplemented by the Saipan airport staff, has already replaced two wires that were 3,000 feet long.

According to Cabrera, they will work on splicing the wires and slowly energizing the affected areas today.

"In every hand hole we need to splice wires and that's not easy," Cabrera said.

### Main issue

The areas that are being worked on right now are just 80 percent of the airport's problem.

In an interview after the briefing, Cabrera said the remaining 20 percent has to do with the area from Bravo to Alpha 7 of the airport field.

"Most likely it's just the wire or the transformer," Cabrera said. "Something must've caused [the fire], so I'm assuming, that's the trouble that caused it."

Asked when the airport will be up 100 percent, Cabrera said he doesn't have an answer yet until he is able to further assess the problem.

### NOTAM issue

Asiana Airlines general manager Sungnam Park raised his concern during the briefing that the "notice to airmen" or NOTAM states that the airport will remain in day operations only until Dec. 7.

Airport manager Edward Mendiola clarified that the NOTAM can be cancelled once the lights are deemed operational.

"We wanted that cushion in case we discovered something else," Mendiola said. "If we get the power back on and everything is fine, then we'll cancel the NOTAM."

Park also raised concerns about the airport tower's confusion on the operation time.

"Asiana said they were held in the air for about 40 minutes today before landing. They couldn't get landing permission," Park said.

He said the plane was supposed to arrive at 6:30am and that their pilot said the runway was visible but they weren't allowed to land.

Mendiola said the new language in their NOTAM would clarify that. The tower will now follow the beginning of civil twilight time, which is approximately 30 minutes before actual sunrise time.

Flights that usually come in at night are still delayed by about four to five hours as they have to wait for the runway to be visible and safe for landing.

# Firefighter allegedly punches woman, assaults 2 men

An off-duty firefighter allegedly punched a Chinese businesswoman on the forehead and kicked her brother-in-law in the back, while the firefighter's male companion also fought with a responding police officer outside the New Top Store in Dandan last Sunday night.

The firefighter and his companion were later handcuffed.

*Saipan Tribune* confirmed with a source at the Department of Public Safety that the firefighter was detained. It was not clear if the other man who fought with the officer is the firefighter's brother or a relative.

DPS has yet to release information about the incident to the media. *Saipan Tribune* opted not to identify the firefighter pending further information from DPS.

The businesswoman was knocked down and sustained a big lump on the left side of her forehead. Medics treated her at the scene.

She said the incident happened shortly before 11pm when the firefighter, who had bought cigarettes and betel nuts at New Top Store, began bothering her 15-year-old niece, who served as the cashier.

At that time, the businesswoman, her sister, and her 57-year-old brother-in-law were eating in the kitchen at the back of the store. The businesswoman said her brother-in-law went inside the store and asked the firefighter why he's bothering the girl.

The firefighter allegedly got mad and challenged the brother-in-law to a fight outside the store. As the firefighter and her brother-in-law were arguing, the businesswoman and her cousin tried to stop the fight.

The businesswoman said the firefighter kicked her brother-in-law in the back, threw her 30-year-old cousin on the ground, and punched her on the forehead.

"I fell on the ground. I felt dizzy. My blood pressure went up," she said.

The businesswoman said her cousin also suffered scratches on the legs and arms.

The businesswoman said responding police officers handcuffed the firefighter and placed him inside a police car.

She said a man who they believe to be the firefighter's relative came and was uncontrollable and refused to listen to the officers. He allegedly wrestled with one officer on the ground.

She said the firefighter later managed to get out of the police car and tried to get inside the store, so they all ran inside the establishment.

The businesswoman questioned the police's action for handcuffing her sister and her brother-in-law. She said police later released her sister and her brother-in-law. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

A Chinese businesswoman shows the injury on her forehead after an off-duty firefighter allegedly punched her when she tried to stop him from fighting with her 57-year-old brother-in-law outside the New Top Store in Dandan on Sunday night. FERDIE DE LA TORRE

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Kia Soul LX retail price $18,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of $300.90 or $138.88 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment $18,054.00.
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Kia Cadenza Premium retail price $35,995 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of $570.20 or $263.17 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment $34,212.00.

# Ivan Blanco wins BSI's open photography contest

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The panel of judges are, from left, Best Sunshine International, Ltd. general counsel Alan Chan, Minda Castro of *Beach Road Magazine*/ Glimpses of Guam, Mark Rabago of *Saipan Tribune*, BSI chief executive officer Mark A. Brown, Laila Younis Boyer of *Marianas Variety*, and BSI chief services officer Tao Xing. The entries were judged last Oct. 21.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Winners of Best Sunshine International Ltd.'s photography contest last month will be presented with their awards today. The open photography contest garnered about 200 entries in just the week that it ran.

"We are humbled by the community's overwhelming response to our photography contest. With so many good-quality entries received, Best Sunshine had difficulty winnowing down the entries," chief services officer Tao Xing said.

The first place winner is Ivan Blanco with his entry titled "Makeshift Playground." It features a 5-year-old girl surveying the ocean—her "playground"—from a makeshift cover built from damaged pine tree branches.

Jack Stewart's *Simba*, which means to go to Mass in Tagalog, won second place. It shows a young boy holding on to his mother as they line up for hot meals provided by Kagman Community Church as part of the relief efforts after Typhoon Soudelor.

Third place went to Fredereic Guintu and Macy Manzanares for their entries, "School 101" and "Healing Saipan."

The top 14 photographs will be exhibited at the casino during today's awarding rites.

Winners will take home $2,000, $1,000, and $500 for the first, second, and third places, respectively.

"These photographs show us how the members of the community struggled during Typhoon Soudelor and how we coped in its aftermath," Xing said. "Each photo tells a story. Each photo is a memory. Each photo memorializes the people's resiliency. Each photo is a testament to the people's will to survive. Truly, the photography is an ode to the triumph of the human spirit."

Ten others—Kevin Ada, Tony Peters, Aysem Bray, Nessea Cruz, Ponce Corotan, Josephine Togawa, Geri dela Cruz, Mary Ann Lagmay, Andrey Zerkov, and Selmalyn Taitano—will get $100 each as consolation prizes.

The entries were judged last Oct. 21 by BSI chief executive officer Mark Brown, Xing, BSI general counsel Alan Chan, Laila Younis Boyer of *Marianas Variety*, Minda Castro *of Beach Road Magazine*/ Glimpses of Guam, and Mark Rabago of *Saipan Tribune*.

"This early, we are making preparations as to how we are going to share the winning entries with the public so we may encourage not only creativity, but also recognize heroism," Xing said. "We look forward to the next iteration of this photography contest. We thank all that participated."

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION

Bank to Establish a Branch Office. Bank of Hawaii, 111 South King Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813, intends to apply to the Federal Reserve Board for permission to establish a branch office to be located at Springs Plaza, Chalan Pale Arnold, Gualo Rai, Saipan 96950. The Federal Reserve considers a number of factors in deciding whether to approve the application including the record of performance of applicant banks in helping to meet local credit needs. You are invited to submit comments in writing on this application to the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, P.O. Box 7702, San Francisco, CA 94120-7702. The comment period will not end before December 16, 2015. The Board's procedures for processing applications may be found at 12 C.F.R. Part 262. Procedures for processing protested applications may be found at 12 C.F.R. 262.25. To obtain a copy of the Federal Reserve Board's procedures, or if you need more information about how to submit your comments on the application, contact Gerald C. Tsai, Director, Applications and Enforcement, at (415) 974-3415. The Federal Reserve will consider your comments and any request for a public meeting or formal hearing on the application if they are received in writing by the Reserve Bank on or before the last day of the comment period.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
Tel. (670) 234-6866/234-9447/234-7689/234-7670 • Fax. (670) 234-9021
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### THE ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE REPORT

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) would like to inform the general public that the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice report is available for public review.

The report can be reviewed at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Central Office, NMHC Field Offices in Tinian and Rota. The report is also available online for review at www.nmhcgov.net.

Written comments regarding the report should be submitted no later than 4:30 p.m. Monday, December 14, 2015 to NMHC's offices in Saipan, Tinian, or Rota. You may also submit your comments via email at nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp.

If you may have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Planner/Environmental Officer at (670)234-6866/7689.

NMHC will make necessary arrangements for persons with disabilities. If you should require any special accommodations please contact our office.

/s/ Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director

# Visitor arrivals up 11 percent in October 2015

October 2015 visitor arrivals to the Northern Mariana Islands rose 11 percent compared to October 2014.

According to the Marianas Visitors Authority, arrivals to the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota registered 39,549 visitors in October 2015, compared to 35,587 visitors received in October 2014.

Arrivals from China jumped 22 percent compared to October 2014 to reach 16,981 visitors. The MVA participated in roadshows in new Northern China markets, introducing the tourism resources of the CNMI to 300 travel agencies in Changchun and Harbin. Century Tours also held roadshows in Shenyang and Dalian, further boosting interest in travel to the CNMI in the key North China market.

Arrivals from Korea grew 14 percent in October to 14,370 visitors. Asiana Airlines operated an additional daily flight from Incheon to Saipan starting Oct. 25 using an Airbus A321 with 171 seats, which will provide an additional 5,000 seats per month out of the Korean market. The MVA has been working closely with the airline to boost sales during the winter season.

Arrivals from Japan fell 24 percent in October to 4,929 visitors. Delta Air Lines cut its Narita to Saipan night flight in October, dropping lift from the Japan market to just one daily flight and further deepening the crisis in the Japan market for the CNMI. In order to begin rebuilding the Japan market with Delta and other key airline and travel agent partners, the MVA is hosting a delegation of 50 Delta staff from across Japan for a familiarization trip to the NMI in December to focus Delta's attention on the need to increase airlift to the NMI. The MVA is also working with Delta to launch a series of large-scale trade familiarization trips for major Japan travel agency staff to learn about the features that differentiate the CNMI from other beach destinations and encourage key Japanese tour wholesalers to increase investment in CNMI promotions. To reverse the drop in airlift from Japan, the MVA is adding new airlift development specialists to the team to secure the re-launch of Delta night flights, boost the number of Asiana charters from Osaka and/or Tokyo, and conduct in-depth negotiations with all target LCCs, including Air Asia, which is now actively evaluating new flights from Japan to the NMI.

## Economic highlights

Japan's government lowered its assessment of the economy in October 2015 as output declined, in a sign that recovery is stalling as overseas demand weakens. During the month of October, the yen remained virtually unchanged against the U.S. dollar (120.03 yen). ***(MVA)***

# Tinian DCCA worker pleads not guilty to 'ice' possession

Gary Michael Cruz Cepeda, a maintenance worker of the Tinian Department of Community and Cultural Affairs who was arrested for allegedly committing traffic offenses and possession of methamphetamine or "ice" in San Jose, Tinian, pleaded not guilty yesterday.

Cepeda, 48, through assistant public defender Matthew Meyer, pleaded not guilty during his arraignment before Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja.

Assistant attorney general Barbara Cepeda appeared for the government.

Naraja set a status conference for Jan. 15, 2016, at 9am.

Police detective Rudolfo S. Hermosilla Jr. and another police officer were doing a routine patrol last Nov. 13 at 9:12pm along Bank of Guam Route 201 in San Jose, Tinian when they saw a vehicle with no taillights heading north on a gravel road.

Hermosilla said they did a violator stop and the driver, identified as Cepeda, stated that he did not have with him his driver's license and car registration.

Cepeda later allegedly confessed he had "ice" in his left pocket.

Hermosilla said the crystalline substance in the straw tested presumptive positive for "ice." ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

# Hyatt holds annual tree lighting ceremony today

Following the Family Fun Carnival last Saturday, Hyatt Regency Saipan will be holding their annual tree lighting ceremony today, Dec. 1, beginning at 6pm.

Performances by the Koblerville Elementary School Umang Glee Club will begin at 5:45pm in the hotel lobby, with Make-A-Wish Foundation children and their families in attendance. The public is invited to join in the festivities, as the hotel celebrates its 35th anniversary.

Also on Friday, Dec. 4, from 6pm to 9pm the Hyatt invites everyone to an evening soiree featuring special food, wine, and spirit pairings. The price for the event will be $35 per person and $25 for Club at the Hyatt members and their guests.

According to the hotel, 35 years of business could not have been possible without their community partners who have provided the freshest produce, resources and continued support over the years and thanks their loyal partners for their continued support.

The doors of Hyatt Regency Saipan first opened to the public on Dec. 1, 1980, offering a full range of services and facilities tailored to serve the needs of meeting planners, business travellers, and leisure guests. The hotel offers a wide range of dining options, including Italian cuisine at Giovanni's, Japanese cuisine at Miyako, live cooking at Teppanyaki, and a wide array of international cuisine at Kili Cafe and Terrace as well as spa, fitness, and entertainment amenities. ***(Daisy Demapan)***

SUNSHINE GARDEN RESTAURANT
OPEN
Grand Opening
Saturday December 5, 2015
MAIN DISHES: Steaks, Ribs, Seafood and many more!
Business Hours: 11:00am - 2:00pm • 6:00pm - 10:00pm
SUNSHINE GARDEN RESTAURANT
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Hospital Supplies • Diabetes Product
The only pharmacy on Saipan OPEN everyday of the year including holidays to meet all your healthcare needs
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Visit us on www.facebook.com/phipharmacy
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# CUC sets temporary power service interruptions

As crews continue mounting transformers and reconnecting customers across Saipan, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. is continuing with the next phase of the restoration by addressing portions of Saipan's power transmission and distribution system less seriously damaged by Typhoon Soudelor.

To maximize resources and accomplish restoration goals as quickly as possible, CUC will conduct a series of temporary power interruptions in the coming weeks to allow linemen safe access to the primary lines for the replacement of essential power distribution materials.

At 8am today, Dec. 1, CUC line crews will temporarily interrupt power service to Lower Base, As Mahetog, Sadog Tasi, and Capital Hill to replace eight deteriorated power poles and hardware. Work on the repairs is expected to take up to nine hours to complete, at which time power will be restored to the area.

At 8am Thursday, Dec. 3, CUC line crews will temporarily interrupt power service to As Teo, Agag, and I-Denni to replace eight deteriorated power poles and hardware. Work on the repairs is expected to take up to nine hours to complete, at which time power will be restored to the area.

At 8am Saturday, Dec. 5, CUC line crews will temporarily interrupt power service to Kagman and a portion of Papago to replace eight deteriorated power poles and hardware. Work on the repairs is expected to take up to nine hours to complete, at which time power will be restored to the area.

The temporary power outages will also impact water service as all wells in the affected areas will be offline. As a result, CUC water customers in the affected areas will experience limited water service until the power is restored.

For more information, visit our website www.cucgov.org or contact the CUC Customer Call Center at 664-4CUC (664-4282). ***(CUC)***

## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
### CUC-RFP-16-002

**Typhoon Soudelor Disaster Recovery Project - CUC Central Warehouse Repairs**

The Office of the Executive Director of the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for repairs at CUC Central Warehouse in Lower Base, Saipan. As this project is time sensitive, contractors shall ensure that they have a good understanding of the project prior to making their bid proposal to avoid protracted contract discussion that will result in a successful expedited contract award to the selected Offeror.

The Scope of Work and Solicitation Package will be emailed upon request, by CUC Procurement & Supply Office from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except on government observed holidays, **until December 15, 2015**. Prospective proponents for this RFP must register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division no later than 2:00 p.m. on December 15, 2015 in order to be considered.

A **mandatory Pre-proposal Conference** will be conducted at the Warehouse Building in Lower Base, Saipan on **December 15, 2015 at 10:00 a.m., ChST.** Immediately after the conference, Site Visits to Warehouse facility will be arranged. Proposers shall familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting the proposal.

**One (1) original and five (5) hard copies**, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC Central Warehouse Repairs, CUC-RFP-16-002" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **December 31, 2015 at 10:00 AM,** local time. Submissions, in PDF, must also be emailed to the addresses as noted in the RFP. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

A Proposal Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposal price must accompany the proposals. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or proposal bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. *A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful Proposer. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying

labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Proponents are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the proponents due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of proponents' preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract.

Proponents shall be accorded fair and equal treatment. There shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proponents.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This request and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: https://marianaslabor.net/. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 a.m. local time on **December 21, 2015, 4:00 p.m. (ChST),** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, CUC P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950 via email: manny.sablan@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, Administrative Assistant, Procurement Division via email: marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org CUC will respond to any questions and clarifications only to prospective proposers who have registered for the solicitation with CUC procurement division.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the Request for Bid in the interest of the Corporation. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

JOHN RIEGEL
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

# Garapan now has 24-hour water service

The whole of Garapan now has water supply round the clock.

Acting Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director John Riegel said the village has had 24/7 water supply since November.

"We're very happy about that," Riegel said. "I think there was a pocket in the main part of Garapan like from the American Memorial Park to Garapan Street and the hotels that did actually have 24-hour water but the rest of it didn't."

Next up for 24-hour water service are Airport Road in As Lito, Quartermaster Road to Monsignor Guerrero Road, 1300 block on Capital Hill, and the Tapuchao area.

"The 1300 block on Capital Hill doesn't [have 24-hour water] but they will soon because we're finishing up the contract," Riegel said.

Areas that still don't have 24-hour water service include Chinatown, Oleai Drive, Marpi, As Matuis, San Roque, Tanapag, Papago, and Laulau.

Riegel said the challenge of getting 24-hour water service to these areas are the leaks.

"The main challenge is that there are a lot of leaks in those areas and we're constantly fighting that," Riegel said. ***(Frauleine Villanueva-Dizon)***

# BECQ Brigade to tackle COP beach

The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality's Cleanup Brigade will be picking up trash at Coral Ocean Point Beach on Saturday, Dec. 5, 2015, starting at 8am.

If you would like to volunteer, meet the BECQ representatives on Saturday at the Coral Ocean Point Beach area/parking lot at 8am. Volunteers will split into groups and clean until 10am and break for drinks and then continue, if needed.

This month, outstanding brigade volunteers who participated in at least 10 monthly cleanups will receive a brigade cap and those who participated in at least three cleanups will receive a brigade T-shirt.

November's rescheduled International Coastal Cleanup for the island of Saipan drew over 600 volunteers and collected over 3,380 lbs of trash.

For more information about volunteering, contact the BECQ office at 664-8500/1. ***(BECQ)***

## BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday to braddah Ray Jr. "Dawg" Deleon Guerrero! Make sure to enjoy your day and may the Lord continue blessing you! We are all so proud of the accomplishments you have achieved and continue being an awesome brother. Much love from your *familia* and the Chicago Bulls nation!

Notice is hereby given that Bank of Hawaii, 111 South King Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 has filed with the State of Hawaii, Division of Financial Institutions, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, an application to open a new branch located at Springs Plaza, Chalan Pale Arnold, Gualo Rai, Saipan 96950. Any person wishing to comment on this application may file comments in writing with the Commissioner of Financial Institutions (by mail to P.O. Box 2054, Honolulu, Hawaii 96805; or delivered to 335 Merchant Street, Room 221, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813) within fifteen days of the date of this notice. The comments may include a statement protesting or supporting the application. You may at the same time request that an informational and comment proceeding be held on the application, if this proceeding is requested, you should include a brief statement of your interest in the application, the matters you wish to discuss, and the reasons why a written presentation would not suffice in lieu of the proceeding.

The non-confidential portion of the application and related documents will be available for inspection within one working day following a request for the application and documents. The application and documents may be inspected at the Division of Financial Institutions during regular business hours.

Published pursuant to Title 16, Chapter 25, Paragraph 16-25-24 of the Hawaii Administrative Rules of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, State of Hawaii.

The Member FDIC

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**
**Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality**
Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315

**Frank M. Rabauliman**
Administrator

**Frances A. Castro**
Director, DCRM

## NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE DCRM AGENCY OFFICIALS

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Ralph DLG. Torres through the Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) hereby give notice that a DCRM Agency Officials meeting will be held on ***Thursday, December 10, 2015, 9:00 AM*** at the Office of the Mayor Conference Room, San Jose Tinian.

**I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
- a) Call to Order
- b) Roll Call
- c) Adoption of the November 12, 2015 Meeting Minutes
- d) Adoption of Agenda

**II. PERMIT APPLICATION**
1. Tinian Magpo Homestead (TMS-2015-X-059)
   - a. Discussion by DCRM Agency Officials and DCRM Director
   - b. Permit Application Determination

**III. MISCELLANEOUS**

**IV. ADJOURNMENT**

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony regarding the above agenda items.

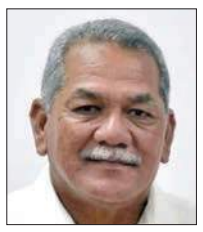
(NOTE: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session).

/s/ **FRANCES A. CASTRO**
DCRM Director

# NMI, Guam AG's ink accord on consumer protection

CNMI Attorney General Edward Manibusan and Guam Attorney General Elizabeth Barrett-Anderson have signed off on a cooperative agreement to enhance the protection of the consumers of Guam and the CNMI.

"Under both CNMI and Guam law, the attorney general must cooperate with and assist other government agencies to protect and promote the interests of consumers," explained Manibusan. "This agreement aligns with those statutory duties."


Manibusan

Barrett-Anderson

The cooperative agreement sets forth the framework for collaborative efforts related to consumer protection issues. Among other things, the agreement provides that the Guam and CNMI offices will pool resources and conduct joint investigations regarding matters that affect consumers in both jurisdictions.

"Our offices have already begun collaborating to address important consumer issues. For example, we sent a joint letter to the CEO of United Airlines to discuss the company's subpar customer service," said Manibusan. "This agreement solidifies our partnership and provides guiding principles for our joint efforts. I am looking forward to further collaboration with Attorney General Barrett-Anderson. I am confident that our joint efforts will benefit the consumers of our islands."

Barrett-Anderson echoed Manibusan's comments. "I believe this agreement is historic. Consumers of both CNMI and Guam will be able to seek cross-jurisdiction protections from companies that do business on both islands." ***(OAG)***

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### DPS sets sobriety checkpoints this weekend

The Department of Public Safety's Traffic Section will be conducting sobriety checkpoint on Dec. 5 and 6, 2015.

On Saturday, Dec. 5, the first setup will be on Chalan Pale Arnold, Garapan by Taro Sue Store, on the northbound lane, from 8pm to 9:15pm. The second setup will be on Beach Road, Chalan Kanoa, in front of Triple J Wholesale, on the northbound lane, from 10:30pm to 11:45pm.

On Sunday, Dec. 6, the first setup will be on Beach Road, Chalan Lau Lau, adjacent to the residence of the late Dr. Benusto Kaipat, on the southbound lane, from 6pm to 7:45pm. The second setup will be on Chalan Monsignor Guerrero, Dandan, by Joeten Commercial Building, from 8pm to 9:15pm.

In addition, police will be conducting laser speed enforcement along various highways. ***(DPS)***

### Saipan chamber meeting on Wednesday

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will hold its monthly general membership meeting this Wednesday, Dec. 2, at the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort. Wednesday is also the Education Committee's Career Exploration Day so there will be a lot of high school seniors in attendance.

This month's speakers will be members from Saipan Young Professionals and Pacific Century Fellows to share their experiences and provide inspiration to the membership and students. Speakers include Tyrell Pauling from Hyatt Regency Saipan and Vince Seman from Century Insurance Group. ***(SCC)***

### BankGuam Holding declares Q4 dividends

**HAGATNA, Guam**—BankGuam Holding Company said yesterday that its board of directors declared a quarterly cash dividend of $0.10 per share at its regular meeting on Monday, Nov. 23, 2015. The dividend will be paid on Dec. 31, 2015, to shareholders of record as of Dec. 15, 2015. BankGuamHolding Company president Lou A. Leon Guerrero stated "I am happy to report that we have met our financial performance for this quarter, thus allowing us to once again provide a return on our shareholder's investment." ***(BoG)***

### DMS students shine at Thespian meet

Dandan Middle School congratulates its Tottots for their achievements during the Junior International Thespian Society November meet:

- Jonathan Wolf: 1st place, Monologue
- Jonathan Wolf and Rio Ayu Shadow: 3rd Place, Duet Acting
- Ramhae Awit: 5th place, Solo Musical

### Military training at FDM, Warning Area 517

**ASAN, Guam**—The U.S. Air Force and Marine Corps will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla during the following dates and times:

- Dec. 2, from 10am to 11pm
- Dec. 3, from 2-11pm
- Dec. 4-5, from 2-9pm
- Dec. 6, from 2-10pm

The U.S. Navy will conduct training at Warning Area 517 on Dec. 2, from 7pm to 11pm.

The general public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators are advised to stay clear of the areas during the dates and times indicated. ***(JRM)***

### SHEFA sets submission deadlines

For both new and returning applicants of the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance, the application deadline for spring 2016 semester is Dec. 1, 2015. Deadline for the submission of the memorandum of agreement and supporting documents is on Feb. 29, 2016. Applications can also be faxed to (670) 235-5996 or emailed to saipanshefa@gmail.com. Ongoing recipients do not need to reapply for this spring term. However, you must submit your official transcript and class schedule for spring 2016 before Feb. 29, 2016. For more information and inquiries about the SHEFA program, visit the SHEFA website, www.saipanshefa.net, or contact the office by e-mail at saipanshefa@gmail.com/contact@saipanshefa.net. ***(SHEFA)***

### Family grief support meeting on Dec. 3

The Compassionate Friends of Saipan will be holding their monthly grief support meeting on Thursday, Dec. 3, from 6pm to 7:30pm, in the NMPASI conference room on Middle Road, in Gualo Rai. For more information, e-mail tcfSaipan@gmail.com or call Jill Derickson (989-9821). To learn more about The Compassionate Friends, visit their website at www.compassionatefriends.org. ***(TCF)***

Draft CNMI Wildlife Action Plan now available
for review and comment
Help take care of species and habitats across our islands
Download at www.cnmidfw.com/2015wap or view at the library
on Saipan, Tinian, or Rota
Comments accepted through Dec. 6, 2015
DIVISION OF FISH & WILDLIFE
CNMI
For more information contact the Division of Fish and Wildlife:
www.cnmidfw.com
wildlifeactionplan@cnmidfw.com
664-6017

# Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

OBAMA'S GOING TO PARIS TO MEET WITH WORLD LEADERS.
Uh,Oh.
...ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE
ZIDEN ©2015 Dist.by King Features
Ha Ha Ha Ha Ha Ha!!!

# Dating a married man? Want some advice?

**By GINA BARRECA**
The Hartford Courant

*Gina Barreca is an English professor at the University of Connecticut, a feminist scholar who has written eight books, and a columnist for the Hartford Courant. She can be reached through her www.ginabarreca.com.*

"Never marry a man who uses a tea bag twice" is a great piece of advice. Except for those with a deep fondness for weak tea, cheap dates or promiscuous recycling, it's both indisputable and timeless.

Simultaneously simple and profound, the best advice is also almost universally applicable. Golda Meir's "Don't be so humble; you're not that great" comes under that rubric. So does a line from one of my mentors from grad school: "The people who don't like you now, darling, will simply like you less as time passes. Stop trying to please them."

I listened to grandmothers: Feed a cold, starve a fever, finish what's on your plate and don't go near the water until an hour after lunch. I listened to grandfathers: Don't believe everything you hear, don't admit to anything unless asked, and remember only fools brag about luck with the ponies or money in the bank.

My actual moral compass, such as it is, was wholly formed by the devotional daily reading of advice columnist Ann Landers (written by Eppie Lederer during my formative years). Even as a child, while others were reading "Pat The Bunny" I was reading "Will Heavy Petting Ruin My Reputation?" Ann Landers answered urgent questions I didn't even know I had. She addressed extravagantly personal topics I didn't even know existed. In terms of predicting the future, she was way better than horoscopes.

I liked her straightforward replies and her lack of coyness. I liked that she admitted when she got something wrong, saying she deserved "40 lashes with a wet noodle." I liked her humor.

But I also like the letters Ann Landers chose.

One had a lasting effect. Printed on Jan. 4, 1979, a letter discussing the vulnerability of young women to seduction insisted that, "Empty promises and sweet talk are the most effective tools of destruction." A friend mailed me the clipping; I was living in London. I carried it as a talisman, keeping it as a reminder to tell and seek only the truth. I had it in my wallet for four years, but by then I knew it for real and by heart.

Landers' replacement, the fabulous Amy Dickinson, keeps up her predecessor's tradition of brevity and wit in her daily column. I'm such an "Ask Amy" fan I turn to her page after glancing at the headlines (just to make sure we'll be around long enough for advice to be useful). One of my recent favorites was Amy's answer to a woman who, after a calamitous divorce, wanted to know what she might expect when meeting the "happily married" old boyfriend who got back in touch as soon as he heard she was single.

Writes Amy, "I love a good script. So let me take a pass at yours: He: 'I'm miserable. My wife doesn't understand me. I think about you all the time.' You: 'Check, please.' And ... scene."

The other advice giver I see as a sort of modern I-Ching is E. Jean Carroll, the diamond-sharp pen behind the "Ask E. Jean" column for Elle magazine. No wet noodles for E. Jean; since 1993, she's been using her words as whips and crops. While insightful and generous, E. Jean takes no prisoners. When asked by a woman still having an affair with a colleague a few weeks before his wedding whether she was the "right" woman or the "other" woman, E. Jean

*See DATING on Page 11*

# America's optimism gap: It's not what you think

**By DICK MEYER**
Scripps Washington Bureau

*Dick Meyer is Chief Washington Correspondent for the Scripps Washington Bureau and DecodeDC (www.newsnet5.com/decodedc). Readers may send him email at dick.meyer@scripps.com.*

Whether it's myth, mush or gospel truth, optimism—the can-do spirit—has always been a core trait in the American "brand." In this Thanksgiving season, however, the menu of who is feeling thankful and hopeful and who isn't is unusual.

A recent NBC News/Wall Street Journal poll tried to get at Americans' feelings about the future. Among the questions were ones basically asking people if they were feeling "cautiously optimistic" about the direction of the country or if they had a sense of "unease" about it.

Overall, 58 percent were optimistic, 48 percent were uneasy. That's not a great showing, but there were exceptions.

Ninety percent of blacks felt optimistic: among Hispanics, 71 percent: among whites, 56 percent.

Only 22 percent of likely Republican voters were optimistic. 89 percent of probable Democratic voters were.

Normally, polling about the direction of the country, about optimism and pessimism, closely mirrors economic status. Not now. Statistically, blacks and Hispanics are not doing better than whites financially.

The annual American Values Survey in 2015 conducted by the Public Religion Research Institute digs a little deeper and at a different angle. It found that how Americans are feeling about the country varies greatly by religious affiliation.

The most pessimistic groups are white evangelical Protestants and white mainline Protestants; majorities believe that America's best days are past and gone. But majorities of Americans who are affiliated with non-Christian religions (55 percent), Catholics (56 percent), black Protestants (57 percent), and religiously unaffiliated Americans (58 percent) are feeling optimistic.

The most pessimistic were tea party followers, 65 percent of whom are gloomy about the direction of the country.

These attitudes reflect feelings about changing culture, not only economics. The PRRI report asked if the American way of life and culture has gotten better or worse since the 1950s. Sixty percent of black Americans and 54 percent of Hispanics think American culture has changed for the better since the 1950s. Only 42 percent of white Americans agree with that.

"While white Protestants share the economic concerns with others in the country, because they have historically been culturally dominant, many are experiencing a kind of dislocation and disillusionment about their waning numbers and cultural influence," Robert P. Jones, CEO of PRRI, told me. "White evangelical Protestants have also experienced the strongest shocks from the shifts on cultural issues, such as same-sex marriage, where they went from being in the mainstream of American opinion to being outliers within the span of a decade."

By contrast, even in a year marked by dramatic episodes of racial tension, minorities are more optimistic than whites. That is driven less by pocketbook economics than by a sense of whether one's own group is gaining in society or losing ground.

That sense of losing ground is most acute among tea party followers, according to the PRRI poll. As an organized force, the tea party is shrinking, but its core views are not. "The tea party gave very visible expression to views that have now become widely diffused through the Republican Party," according to Jones. "For example, while a remarkable 68 percent of tea party members say discrimination against whites has now become as big a problem as discrimination against blacks and other minorities, 64 percent of Republicans overall also agree."

These are precisely the sorts of voters who are now picking Donald Trump and Ben Carson in early polls. A common and sensible explanation for the popularity of these unconventional novelty candidates is that angry voters are protesting by flirting with outsider candidates.

These voters are certainly angry. A new study by the Pew Research Center found that 42 percent of the most politically active Republicans describe themselves as "angry" about the government; only11 percent of active Democrats do.

I suspect that anger is not the root emotion of these angry white voters. The PRRI polling and much other research points to something deeper. Yes, it is partly a sense of losing ground—and privilege—in society to other groups; that is easy to prey on by politicians willing to hunt scapegoats. But there is also, I believe, a less toxic feeling that lots of good traditions and institutions in America are fading away and not being replaced by anything that works or fits.

White voters down the educational and economic scales a bit began dumping their traditional allegiance to the Democrats in the 1980s. The Republicans lured them away mostly using social and cultural issues such as abortion and affirmative action.

The Democrats have not done a good job regaining their trust or votes. It is clear, however, that the Republicans have not done a good job of ministering to their fears and needs. And so these are not the most thankful of voters this season.

**EDITORIAL POLICY** Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

# Celebrating American values

**By TRUDY RUBIN**
The Philadelphia Inquirer

*Trudy Rubin is a columnist and editorial-board member for the* Philadelphia Inquirer. *Readers may write to her at:* Philadelphia Inquirer, *P.O. Box 8263, Philadelphia, Pa. 19101, or by email at trubin@phillynews.com.*

During the Thanksgiving season I normally give thanks to my grandparents for fleeing Russia in 1905 and to America for taking them in.

But this year, given the hysteria over Syrian immigrants, I want to pay tribute to some voices of sanity who are standing up for American values and upholding our long tradition of welcoming refugees.

Let me start with Chris George, the head of Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services, or IRIS, a New Haven, Conn.-based nonprofit that helps settle refugees in Connecticut (www.irisct.org). When Indiana Gov. Mike Pence announced that his state would refuse entry to a Syrian refugee family scheduled to settle in Indianapolis—one of 31 governors who vowed to keep Syrians out of their states, all but one Republican—George quickly reacted. He invited them to New Haven, where Connecticut Gov. Dan Malloy personally welcomed them.

"My phone has been ringing off the hook with calls from people and groups from all over the state offering to welcome Syrian refugees," George told me by phone. "They will make great neighbors and citizens." George also reports that he received many emails from Indiana residents apologizing for their governor's behavior.

"We are confident," he adds, "that our government will thoroughly screen all refugees—as it has done in the past—before they are invited to resettle here."

What is so disturbing about the agitation over Syrian refugees is the degree to which politicians are fanning public fears by misrepresenting the facts about the refugees. Even more disturbing is how they ignore the draconian vetting procedures already in place.

The misrepresentation starts with the numbers. Of the millions of Syrians who have fled bombs and civil war, the worst refugee catastrophe since World War II, the United States has taken just 2,174 since 2013.

The administration proposes to take only 10,000 more. Yet Republican presidential front-runner Donald Trump continues to propagate the malicious lie that President Barack Obama has invited in 250,000 Syrian refugees.

(Note that, even after the Paris attacks, France has pledged to take 30,000 and Canada 20,000, while Germany is taking hundreds of thousands. Meantime, Lebanon, Jordan, and Turkey together are hosting millions.)

Furthermore, priority will be given to the most vulnerable Syrians, families with small kids, female-headed households, and torture victims (the only category of single men who will be admitted). These Syrians hardly fit the terrorist profile. These are desperate families fleeing from terrorists.

So let me also salute Rep. Seth Moulton, D-Mass., a four-tour Iraq vet, who tweeted this about his state's Republican Gov. Charlie Baker, who has been trying to ban Syrian refugees from his state: "Gov. Baker doesn't know the difference between refugees and those from whom they need refuge (meaning the Islamic State)." When Baker accused Moulton of resorting to "partisan talking points" the Iraq vet fired back: "My American values and Marine Corps experience are not 'partisan talking points.'"

The political misrepresentation continues when it comes to security concerns. It is understandable that Americans are nervous in the aftermath of the Paris attacks, and I wish Obama would address the nation more forcefully to tamp down outsized fears. But the anti-immigrant brigade is ignoring the facts.

The current, draconian vetting process for refugees takes nearly two years. None of the Syrians admitted in recent years has been arrested or deported on terrorism charges.

While no one can guarantee 100 percent accuracy, experts agree the real threat doesn't come from refugees. Rather, it comes from U.S. or European citizens who have been radicalized on the Internet or who have traveled to Syria. Nearly all the known terrorists involved in the Paris attacks were French or Belgian citizens.

Yet nearly every House Republican (along with 47 Democrats) voted for a bill to impose vetting conditions virtually impossible for refugees to meet, a bill Obama rightly threatens to veto. They have turned a humanitarian issue into a partisan promotion of fear.

Fortunately, many Americans still understand that helping settle those fleeing torture and war exemplifies what the country stands for. George told me that he's getting "an enormous outpouring of support from churches, synagogues, and mosques" asking to sponsor refugees or offering other means of support.

One poignant example:

Last week, George's organization received the Unsung Heroes Award from the Morris and Irmgard Wessel Fund, a Jewish family foundation. David Wessel wrote to George that the fund was thanking IRIS "for doing for a new generation of immigrants what others did for (his mother) Irm Wessel 75 years ago."

In 1940, Wessel wrote, the Disciple of Christ Church in Eureka, Ill., decided it was their moral duty to help resettle refugees fleeing Nazi terror. A church delegation reached out to the Wessel family, newly arrived from Germany and living in a refugee hostel in Iowa. It offered them a home in Eureka and welcomed them into a community "that had rarely known Jews, let alone German-born Jews." Wessel's mother "never forgot the fear and desperation of being a refugee and a new immigrant," her son wrote, "and was a lifelong advocate for those who came to America after she did."

Chris George and the Wessels are celebrating the values that define this country. On Thanksgiving, at a time when fearmongers are attacking those values, they deserve our thanks.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# Base PSS budget on calendar year

As a veteran teacher and former chairman of the board, please allow me to comment on the proposed bill to have individual schools prepare their annual budgets, due to be heard on Dec. 3.

If the bill is adopted and signed into law, there is no doubt the dedicated administration and faculties at each school, although already overburdened, will follow the law and create a model budget. There is also no doubt that when the individual school budgets reach the central office, the total will far exceed the overall budget and either be cut by central office or sent back to the schools to be redone, at the further expense of time and aggravation.

May I suggest that there is a better alternative, now that the Public School System is guaranteed 25 percent of the annual CNMI general fund revenues.

Change the PSS from a fiscal year budget to a calendar year budget, as with the state of Hawaii, which shares common problems with the CNMI PSS—transportation and communication between schools on separate islands.

The annual budget for PSS can be calculated and allocated to PSS central from the projected CNMI revenues in November/December. PSS central can then allocate a total budget to each school in January, giving them time to work with their faculties to create an individual school budget (as per the new mandates for "site-based management"), have it approved by central office in February/March, and place orders for materials in time to ensure they are received by each school well before school opens in August.

If the CNMI annual revenues are underestimated, as they should be in a growing economy, then adjustments can be made at the end of each fiscal year, with a bonus for each school that lived within its budget.

**Don Farrell**
*Marpo Heights, Tinian*

## DATING

*From Page 10*

cuts deliberation short by explaining "Alas, you're neither the 'right woman' nor the 'other woman.' You're the sucker."

And while the rest of us might be amateurs, we nevertheless have our signature pieces. "Never back up an inch more than you have to" Jack Sheedy was advised during a driving lesson, but he's applied those words to everything else. Lori Aldape swears that "if someone has to have an answer right now, then the answer is no." I tell young couples, if I'm asked whether they should wear rings, what I was told by a lecturer at Cambridge: "Wedding rings are like bicycle clips: they're there to keep your pants in place."

My older brother once reminded me: "You can always stop what you're doing." I'm taking his advice right now.

# Presidential candidates must address racial wealth gap

**By ORSON AGUILAR**
Tribune News Service

*Orson Aguilar is president of The Greenlining Institute (www.greenlining.org). He wrote this for Progressive Media Project, a source of liberal commentary on domestic and international issues; it is affiliated with* The Progressive *magazine.*

It's encouraging to see presidential candidates of both parties talking about economic inequality, but they're missing something important. To fix America's economy, they must address the huge economic disparities between racial and ethnic groups.

For every dollar of wealth a white family has, the median Asian family has about 81 cents, the median Latino family has 7 cents and the median black family has less than 6 cents. And that comparatively strong overall figure for Asian-Americans masks pockets of severe poverty, particularly among Southeast Asian immigrant communities.

These gaps are not coincidental. They stem from policies such as redlining (officially supported by the U.S. government in the past), environmental racism and disinvestment that suppressed wealth and property values in communities of color. The racial wealth gap didn't happen accidentally and won't be fixed without a conscious, determined effort, but so far the candidates have shown little understanding.

Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, for example, has made the "gap between the very rich and everyone else" a centerpiece of his campaign. Yet his website page addressing income and wealth inequality doesn't even mention the racial wealth gap. His proposed solutions, from raising the minimum wage to free public higher education, can help, but don't address the specific issues of disinvestment in communities of color and the myriad racially skewed policies that stifle entire communities.

Similarly, Hillary Clinton's economic proposals include lots of language about supporting working people and promoting small business and job training, but fail to address the specific issues underlying the racial wealth gap.

Republican candidates are also discussing economic disparities. Jeb Bush has talked about an "opportunity gap," and Donald Trump takes an occasional break from bashing immigrants to call the special tax breaks for hedge fund managers "a total and complete joke." But they've addressed the underlying racial chasm even less than the Democrats, who at least mention it now and then.

We need answers from our leaders. For example, The New York Times recently reported that redlining, theoretically banned decades ago, is back, and keeping African-Americans from getting mortgages. Candidates should be asked what they will do to stop this, and what their plan is for enforcing and strengthening the Community Reinvestment Act to ensure that banks don't neglect low-income communities.

The Dodd-Frank financial reform act created Offices of Minority and Women Inclusion in the federal agencies that regulate banking. In doing this, Congress sought to ensure that the financial system respects the needs of the communities of color that were exploited during the bubble. Candidates should be asked their proposals to make certain the promise of these offices is fulfilled.

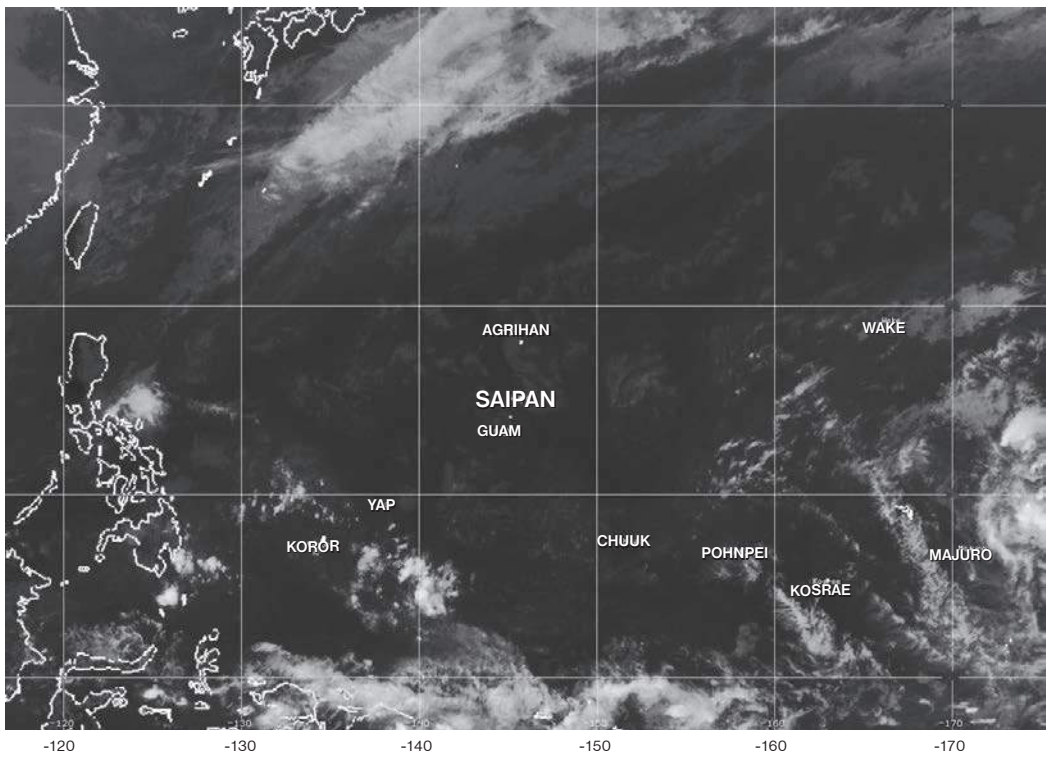
The racial wealth gap ultimately hurts our whole economy. Presidential candidates from all parties should say clearly what they will do about it.

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

| TODAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph. | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph. | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. |
| ▲88° ▼77° | ▲87° ▼77° | ▲87° ▼77° | ▲87° ▼77° | ▲87° ▼77° |

## Yesterday's Satellite Image




**PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2015**

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A trade-wind disturbance is generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms near Yap and Palau within 160 miles of a line from 12N131E to 3N141E. A surface trough extends northwest from 6N160E to 11N157E. An upper-level trough extends northeast from an upper low at 10N152E to 21N170E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are seen north of Pohnpei and Kosrae between 9N and 14N from 156E to 169E. A trade-wind disturbance is triggering scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms east of Majuro within 200 miles of a line from 14N172E to 7N180. A cold front extends southwest from 25N133E to 23N130E. Cloudiness and scattered showers are seen southeast of Okinawa along and north of this front to beyond 25N.

*Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/*

## Micronesia

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Guam And Rota | Showers | ▲87 | ▼78 |
| Palau | Thunderstorms | ▲87 | ▼79 |
| Yap | Partly Cloudy | ▲87 | ▼77 |
| Chuuk | Thunderstorms | ▲86 | ▼79 |
| Pohnpei | Partly Cloudy | ▲88 | ▼79 |
| Kosrae | Partly Cloudy | ▲86 | ▼80 |
| Majuro | Thunderstorms | ▲86 | ▼81 |

## Around the Globe

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Auckland | Showers | ▲70 | ▼60 |
| Beijing | Cloudy | ▲34 | ▼26 |
| Hong Kong | Partly Cloudy | ▲78 | ▼71 |
| Honolulu | Mostly Sunny | ▲82 | ▼72 |
| London | Cloudy | ▲57 | ▼51 |
| Los Angeles | Partly Cloudy | ▲68 | ▼45 |
| Manila | Partly Cloudy | ▲90 | ▼76 |
| Melbourne | Windy | ▲77 | ▼48 |
| Miami | Partly Cloudy | ▲81 | ▼73 |
| New York | Mostly Cloudy | ▲49 | ▼44 |
| Osaka | Partly Cloudy | ▲56 | ▼42 |
| Paris | Cloudy | ▲56 | ▼47 |
| Pusan | Mostly Sunny | ▲59 | ▼48 |
| Rome | Mostly Sunny | ▲64 | ▼44 |
| Salem | Mostly Cloudy | ▲41 | ▼32 |
| San Francisco | Cloudy | ▲55 | ▼45 |
| Seoul | Mostly Sunny | ▲48 | ▼34 |
| Tokyo | Partly Cloudy | ▲59 | ▼43 |
| Washington, DC | Showers | ▲46 | ▼45 |

**NMI CRIME STOPPERS**

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

## Tides

Saipan Harbor

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 5:19 AM | Today | Low Tide: | -0.1 Feet |
| 12:29 PM | Today | High Tide: | 1.9 Feet |
| 6:30 PM | Today | Low Tide: | 1.1 Feet |
| 10:45 PM | Today | High Tide: | 1.5 Feet |

## Sunrise/Sunset

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 6:27 AM | 5:45 PM |
| Wednesday | 6:27 AM | 5:45 PM |
| Thursday | 6:28 AM | 5:45 PM |
| Friday | 6:28 AM | 5:45 PM |
| Saturday | 6:29 AM | 5:46 PM |

## Moonrise/Moonset

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 10:46 PM | 10:50 AM |
| Wednesday | 11:35 PM | 11:34 AM |
| Thursday | | 12:14 PM |
| Friday | 12:23 AM | 12:53 PM |
| Saturday | 1:10 AM | 1:31 PM |

*Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.*

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 17, 2015

### DEPARTURES

#### SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA2924 | 4:15am | 5:05am | Daily |
| UA2922 | 8:40am | 9:30am | Daily |
| UA2921 | 1:30pm | 3:10pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota |
| UA2920 | 2:20pm | 3:10pm | 2, 3, 6 |
| UA2928 | 6:05pm | 6:55pm | Daily |
| UA2926 | 9:50pm | 10:40pm | Daily |

#### SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA2921 | 1:30pm | 2:05pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |

#### ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA2921 | 2:35pm | 3:10pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |

#### SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DL297 | 4:25pm | 7:15pm | Daily |

#### SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ626 | 2:10am | 6:00am | 1 |
| OZ626 | 2:40am | 6:30am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 |
| OZ628 | 3:50am | 7:40am | Daily |
| 7C3403 | 4:35am | 8:20am | 1, 2, 3, 6, 7 |
| 7C3403 | 5:25am | 9:10am | 4, 5 |
| 7C3401 | 3:15pm | 7:35pm | 3, 5, 6 |
| 7C3401 | 4:20pm | 8:05pm | 1, 2, 4, 7 |

#### SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ608 | 3:10am | 6:20am | 4, 7 |

#### SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8648 | 6:10am | 8:40am | 1, 4, 5, 7 |

#### SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MU764 | 1:30am | 5:30am | 3, 5, 7 |

#### SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8646 | 4:20am | 7:30am | 2, 6 |

#### SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ626/701 | 2:10am | 11:15am | 1 via ICN |
| OZ626/701 | 2:40am | 11:15am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |
| UA2924/191 | 4:15am | 9:00am | 3, 6 via GUM |
| UA2924/PR111 | 4:15am | 9:20am | 1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA2924/183 | 4:15am | 9:30pm | 2, 5 via GUM |
| UA2924/183 | 4:15am | 9:50pm | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA2922/183 | 8:40am | 9:30pm | 2, 5 via GUM |
| UA2922/183 | 8:40am | 9:50pm | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA2921/183 | 1:30pm | 9:30pm | 5 via Rota-GUM |
| UA2921/183 | 1:30pm | 9:50pm | 1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM |
| UA5038/183 | 2:20pm | 9:30pm | 2 via GUM |
| UA5038/183 | 2:20pm | 9:50pm | 3, 6 via GUM |
| UA5072/191 | 9:50pm | 7:20am+1 | 1, 6 via GUM |

#### SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ626/721 | 2:10am | 11:50am | 1 via ICN |
| OZ626/721 | 2:40am | 11:50am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |
| OZ628/721 | 3:50am | 12:50am | Daily via ICN |
| UA2924/159 | 4:15am | 10:35pm | 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM |
| UA2922/159 | 8:40am | 10:35pm | 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM |
| UA2921/159 | 1:30pm | 10:35pm | 1, 5 via Rota-GUM |
| UA2920/159 | 2:20pm | 10:35pm | 3, 6 via GUM |

### ARRIVALS

#### GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA2923 | 2:45am | 3:35am | Daily |
| UA2925 | 7:15am | 8:05am | Daily |
| UA2921 | 12:10pm | 1:00pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
| UA2920 | 12:15pm | 1:50pm | 2, 3, 6 via Rota |
| UA2927 | 4:45pm | 5:35pm | Daily |
| UA2929 | 8:30pm | 9:20pm | Daily |

#### GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA2920 | 12:10pm | 12:45pm | 2, 3, 6 |

#### ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA2920 | 1:15pm | 1:50pm | 2, 3, 6 |

#### NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DL298 | 10:35am | 3:15pm | Daily |

#### SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7C3402 | 8:45am | 2:15pm | 3, 5, 6 |
| 7C3402 | 9:30am | 3:20pm | 1, 2, 4, 7 |
| OZ625 | 7:40pm | 1:00am+1 | 7 |
| OZ625 | 8:10pm | 1:30am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 |
| OZ627 | 9:30pm | 2:50am+1 | Daily |
| 7C3404 | 10:10pm | 3:40am+1 | Daily |

#### BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ607 | 9:00pm | 1:50am+1 | 3, 6 |

#### SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8647 | 10:40pm | 5:00am+1 | 3, 4, 6, 7 |

#### BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MU763 | 4:30pm | 12:30am+1 | 2, 4, 6 |

#### GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8645 | 7:40pm | 3:00am+1 | 1, 5 |

#### MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA190/2929 | 9:55am | 9:20pm | 2, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA190/2929 | 10:00am | 9:20pm | 3 via GUM |
| OZ702/625 | 12:30pm | 1:00am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ702/625 | 12:30pm | 1:30am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| OZ702/627 | 12:30pm | 2:50am+1 | Daily via ICN |
| PR110/UA2925 | 10:05pm | 8:05am+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA184/2925 | 10:55pm | 8:05am+1 | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA184/2921 | 10:55pm | 1:00pm+1 | 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA184/2920 | 10:55pm | 1:50pm+1 | 1 via GUM-Rota |
| UA184/2927 | 10:55pm | 5:35pm+1 | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA184/2929 | 10:55pm | 9:20pm+1 | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA184/2925 | 11:59pm | 8:05am+1 | 2, 5 via GUM |
| UA184/2920 | 11:59pm | 1:50pm+1 | 2, 5 via GUM-Rota |
| UA184/2927 | 11:59pm | 5:35pm+1 | 2, 5 via GUM |
| UA184/2929 | 11:59pm | 9:20pm+1 | 2, 5 via GUM |

#### HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ722/625 | 1:15pm | 1:00am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ722/625 | 1:15pm | 1:30am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| OZ724/627 | 2:20pm | 2:50am+1 | Daily via ICN |
| UA116/2925 | 10:55pm | 8:05am+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM |
| UA116/2921 | 10:55pm | 1:00pm+1 | 3, 6 via GUM |
| UA116/2920 | 10:55pm | 1:50pm+1 | 1, 5 via GUM-Rota |
| UA116/2927 | 10:55pm | 5:35pm+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM |
| UA116/2929 | 10:55pm | 9:20pm+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM |

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

### STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

#### TINIAN TO SAIPAN

| DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|
| 6:30AM | 6:45AM | Mon, Tue,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |
| 7:30AM | 7:45AM | Daily |
| 8:30AM | 8:45AM | Daily |
| 9:30AM | 9:45AM | Daily |
| 10:30AM | 10:45AM | Daily |
| 11:30AM | 11:45AM | Daily |
| 12:30NN | 12:45NN | Daily |
| 1:30PM | 1:45PM | Daily |
| 2:30PM | 2:45PM | Daily |
| 3:30PM | 3:45PM | Daily |
| 4:30PM | 4:45PM | Daily |
| 5:30PM | 5:45PM | Daily |
| 6:30PM | 6:45PM | Daily |

#### SAIPAN TO TINIAN

| DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|
| 7:00AM | 7:15AM | Daily |
| 8:00AM | 8:15AM | Daily |
| 9:00AM | 9:15AM | Daily |
| 10:00AM | 10:15AM | Daily |
| 11:00AM | 11:15AM | Daily |
| 12:00NN | 12:15NN | Daily |
| 1:00PM | 1:15PM | Daily |
| 2:00PM | 2:15PM | Daily |
| 3:00PM | 3:15PM | Daily |
| 4:00PM | 4:15PM | Daily |
| 5:00PM | 5:15PM | Daily |
| 6:00PM | 6:15PM | Daily |

#### SAIPAN TO ROTA

| DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|
| 7:45AM | 8:15AM | Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |
| 4:00PM | 4:30PM | Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |

#### ROTA TO SAIPAN

| DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|
| 8:30AM | 9:00AM | Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |
| 4:45PM | 5:15PM | Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |

# 700 take part in NMC's Start Smart Seminar

Approximately 700 high school seniors from Marianas High School, Kagman High School, Saipan Southern High School, Tinian Junior Senior High School, Mt. Carmel School, Grace Christian Academy, and Agape Christian School participated in Northern Marianas College's Start Smart Seminar. The event was intended to prepare high school students for college and covered topics like financial aid, admissions, SATs, and many more. The Start Smart event was made possible by the College Access Challenge Grant Program. ***(NMC)***

NMC
Some 700 students from all high schools in the CNMI participate in the Start Smart Seminar.

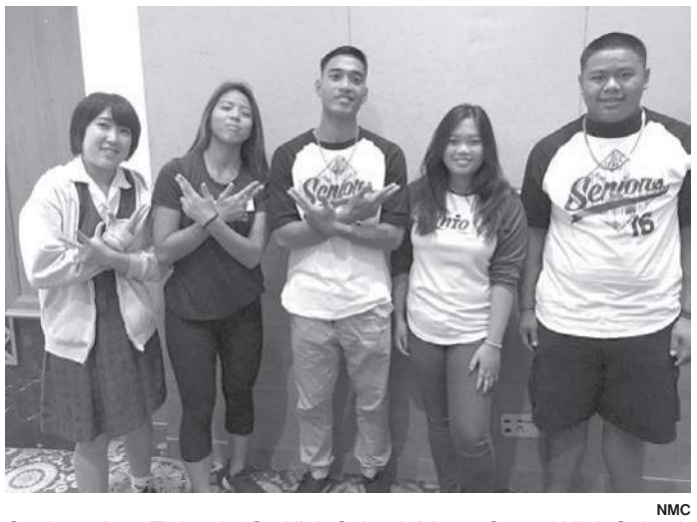
NMC
Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) addresses the high school students at the Start Smart Seminar.

NMC
Community leaders like Superior Court Associate Judge David Wiseman speak to high school seniors and share their experiences while in college.

NMC
Students from different high schools participate in team building exercises.

NMC
Shirley Sablan, center, general manager of Pacifica Insurance, answer students' questions about college.

NMC
Galvin Guerrero, president of Mt. Carmel School, provides inspirational remarks to the high school students.



NMC
Students from Tinian Jr./Sr. High School, Mount Carmel High School, and Grace Christian Academy pose for a photo during one of the breaks at the Start Smart Seminar.

NMC
Anthony Deleon Guerrero from the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. shares his college experience with high school students.

# Christmas in the Marianas returns this month

"Christmas in the Marianas" returns to Saipan on consecutive Saturdays in December, offering weekly holiday entertainment for visitors and residents, alike.

This year's signature event will be led by Team PDI, KKMP, the CNMI Public School System, Paseo de Marianas Promoters, and other new stakeholders in support of the Marianas Visitors Authority, which suffered a budget cut this year.

"We are very grateful to all our partners for taking the lead in organizing this year's Christmas in the Marianas and for coming together to see the continuation of this MVA signature event," said MVA community projects manager Martin Duenas. "We have partnered with Team PDI on this event for several years now, and we are confident that this year's celebration is going to be just as lively as in years past."

"We wish all the children the best and welcome the community to come and join with us as we continue to bring holiday cheer to our kids in celebrating Christmas in the Marianas," said PDI vice president Gordon Marciano.

The celebration will kick off on Dec. 5 with the annual schoolwide Christmas Tree

Decoration Competition at Paseo de Marianas in downtown Garapan. The trees, decorated with recyclable material, will remain on display at the pedestrian mall in Saipan's main tourist district throughout the month.

Elementary and middle school students will sing their hearts out at the annual Christmas Caroling Competition on stage at Paseo de Marianas, while upper grades will have a dance, skit, and singing competition on Dec. 5, 12, and 19. Also on Dec. 19, the Christmas Parade and Float and Costume Competition will be held. The floats competition will start at 6pm from the Carolinian Affairs Office to Paseo de Marianas. On Dec. 24, the annual Mochitsuki Festival will be held with the traditional pounding of rice. ***(MVA)***

# MTEC returns to private schools

Adding to its goal of reaching every public school on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota with the message "Tourism is Everybody's Business," the Marianas Tourism Education Council is also resuming educational presentations to private schools.

On Nov. 17, 2015, MTEC presented to grades 5-8 at Grace Christian Academy at the invitation of principal Beth Nunez. The presentation covered tourism statistics and benefits, marketing and signature events by the Marianas Visitors Authority, the importance of environmental conservation, and careers in the industry.

"We've had a very successful last few years of getting the message out to public school students on how tourism works and its importance to our community. We can see the young people growing in their understanding," said MTEC chair Vicky Benavente. "This year we are also entertaining private schools, upon request, and we're pleased to have the resources to do so, thanks in part, to the generous support of the Hotel Association of the Northern Marianas and MVA members."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Students of San Antonio Middle School show their enthusiasm following a presentation of the Marianas Tourism Education Council at their school on Nov. 19, 2015.Best Sunshine International director of Corporate Social Responsibility Geri Dela Cruz spoke about golf tourism at the presentation.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Saipan-da backpacks from the Marianas Visitors Authority were awarded to students of San Antonio Middle School during the quiz portion of a presentation by the Marianas Tourism Education Council on Nov. 19, 2015.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Community projects specialist Ryan Calvo shares about the work of the Marianas Visitors Authority during the presentation of the Marianas Tourism Education Council at Grace Christian Academy on Nov. 17, 2015.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Students of Grace Christian Academy won Saipan-da backpacks for correctly answering questions about tourism following the presentation of the Marianas Tourism Education Council on Nov. 17, 2015.

MTEC and the Marianas Visitors Authority also presented at San Antonio Middle School on Nov 19, 2015. Best Sunshine International director of Corporate Social Responsibility Geri Dela Cruz shared about the benefits and opportunities of golf tourism. San Antonio Middle School has an active MY WAVE Club engaging in tourism-related activities.

"We'd like to see every school with a MY WAVE Club," said Benavente. "Any school wishing to start a club or actively engaged in supporting tourism can contact us about financial incentives available."

For more information, contact MVA community projects specialist Ryan Calvo at 664-3200 /3210 or rcalvo@mymarianas.com. ***(MTEC)***

## Pasifika Renaissance invites individuals to document oral traditions

**By DAISY DEMAPAN**
daisy_demapan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

With increased interest in promoting historical and cultural preservation, Pasifika Renaissance is inviting individuals to document oral traditions from knowledgeable elders in their villages or islands using video.

Participants are being asked to record their findings and upload their videos to the group's YouTube page at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnmyAfrAD0u4MpUF9jLgjag or by searching for their name on the site.

Topics of focus include elder narrations of legends, folk tales, colonial histories, experiences of war, and dying cultural practices. Documentation of cultural practices such as fishing, rituals, dancing and festivals are also welcome.

Narrators may speak in their native language or speak English since the target of the video documentary project is for the younger generation.

The project seeks active involvement in revitalizing the islands' traditional culture and creating a larger renaissance movement in the wider Pacific region.

According to the *Kaselehlie Press*, Pohnpei's local newspaper, Dr. Takuya Nagaoka is the organization's executive director who also conducts interviews with elders in the Micronesian community discussing history, tradition, and culture.

In 2014, Nagaoka spent several months in Pohnpei and eventually went to Yap.

Nagaoka said that much of Pacific history is not preserved or available locally and one of the goals of the organization is to bring history back to where it belongs.

For more information on the project, email pasifika.renaissance@gmail.com or go to www.facebook.com/PashifikaRenaissance.

Pasifika Renaiisance is a non-profit organization registered in Japan on September 2014 that endeavors to preserve and promote cultural and historical heritage in the Pacific Islands in order to revitalize traditional culture and empower local communities. Their YouTube channel shares videos of oral tradition documentation projects throughout Micronesia including other cultural activities.

# Nepalese community of Tinian cleans up island

The Nepal Tinian Society Inc. organized an islandwide cleanup of Tinian last Saturday, Nov. 28, starting from the Office of the Mayor all the way to their final destination, the Taga Beach. Along the way, the group also cleaned up the Tinian Superior Court, Department of Public Safety building, Tinian Health Center, U.S. Postal Service, Tinian Public Library, San Jose Church, the Senior Citizen building, the traditional fiesta grounds on Kammer Beach, and Tachogna Beach.

Nepal Tinian Society founder Bal Krishna Thapa Magar and president Bharat Raj Bhatt later handed out certificates of appreciation to all the cleanup participants.

The Nepal Tinian Society would also like to express their sincere thanks to Allen Perez of the Tinian Mayor's Office, Department of Commerce resident director Mary Susan Cruz, Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino general manager Christopher Bishop, and Mr. and Mrs. Sterling Lundgren for their support. Similarly, the group gives thanks to Tinian Fuel Services Inc. CEO Phillip Mendiola-Long for donating the use of vehicles, ice/water, and gloves. ***(PR)***

# Your entertainment lineup this holiday season

By DAISY DEMAPAN
daisy_demapan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

## Hyatt Regency Saipan Tree Lighting

Hyatt's annual tree lighting ceremony will be held today, Dec. 1 at 6pm. Performances by the Koblerville Elementary School Umang Glee Club will begin at 5:45pm at the hotel entrance followed by the tree lighting at 6pm. The event is free and open to the public.

## Mount Carmel School's Theatre Club featuring Guam Territorial Band

Mount Carmel School's Theatre Club presents a musical production titled *White Christmas* featuring jazz hits from the Guam Territorial Band on Dec. 4, Friday, and Dec. 5, Saturday, at the Saipan World Resort. Doors open at 6:30pm. Ticket prices are $25 for premium seats, $10 for preferred seats, and $5 for general admission. For more information, call 234-6184.

## Steven Brownstein Entertainment

Grammy-nominated rapper Petey Pablo featuring Bubba Sparxxx will be performing on Dec. 11 at Godfather's Bar. Available space is limited. Tickets are on sale now for $25 at Godfather's Bar.

## Glushko's Academy

A Christmas ballet concert by Glushko's Academy will be held on Dec. 13 at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center. Show starts at 6pm and tickets can be purchased by calling 483-6271 or at the door, $5 for children, and $10 for adults.

## Mormon Tabernacle Choir

The public is invited to enjoy three remaining Christmas shows featuring the Mormon Tabernacle Choir and other special guests at the Church of Latter Day Saints on Middle Road in Chalan Laulau. Dec. 6 will feature "Once Upon a Christmas" with Jane Seymour and Nathan Gunn; Dec. 13 will feature "Home for the Holidays" with Alfie Boe and Tom Brokaw; and Dec. 20 will feature "Keep Christmas with You" with The Muppets from Sesame Street and Santino Fontana from *Frozen*. Each show is 90 minutes long and will begin at 6pm. Admission is free.

## The Manta Band and Saipan Pacific Winds

Titled "A Most Wonderful Christmas Concert," the Manta Ray Band and Saipan Pacific Winds have paired up for a showcase on Dec. 18 at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center. Tickets are available at the door for $5 general admission.

## Christmas on the Puti'on Saipan

Saipan Sea Ventures *Puti'on* Saipan is holding special local Fridays on Dec. 4, 11, 18, and 25. Enjoy the beautiful Saipan sunset with dinner, live entertainment, sing-alongs, meet-and-greet with Santa, cookie decorating and raffles. Children under 10 years old are free, while it is $30 for adults and $15 for children ages 10 to 18 years old. For more information or to reserve your tickets, call 322-7676.

## Paskong Pinoy

The United Filipino Organization is now preparing for its annual *Paskong Pinoy* or Filipino Christmas to be held at the parking lot of the Marianas Business Plaza on Dec. 20. The event will begin at 10am and end at 10pm. There'll be games and other entertainment. Call Bong Malasarte for more information at 287-5525.

# Nation

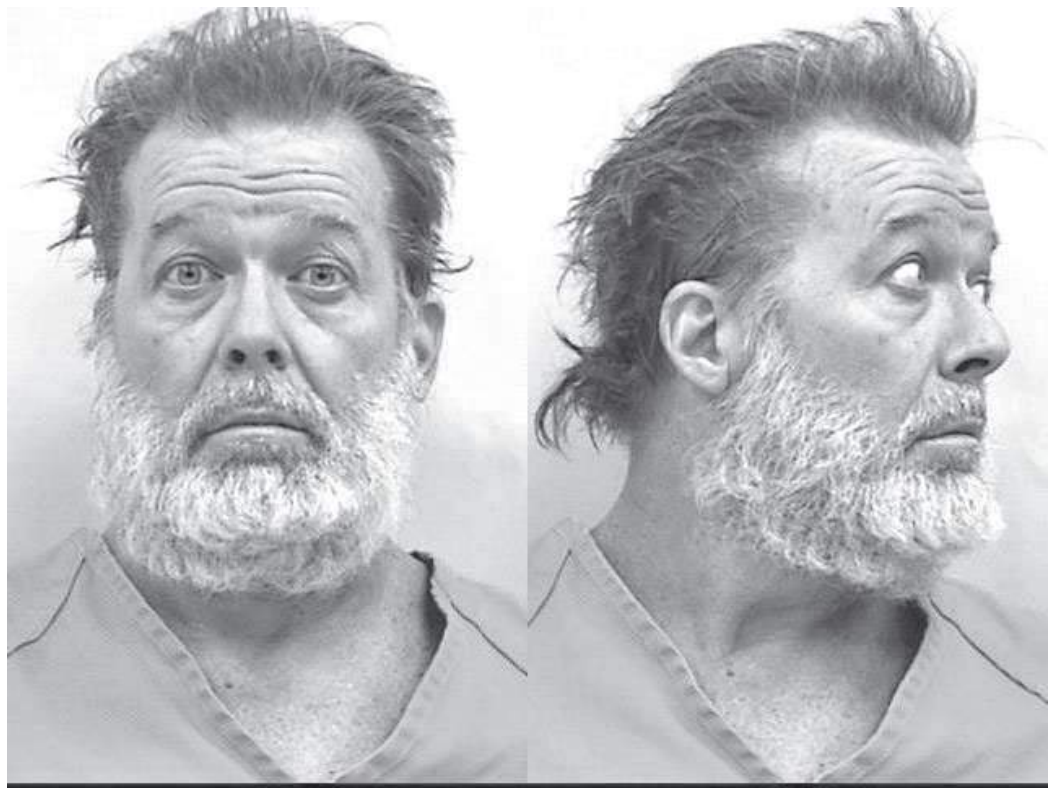
## ‘No more baby parts’: Reclusive suspect’s words draw focus

**COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo.** (AP)—Robert Lewis Dear told authorities “no more baby parts” after being arrested for the shooting of a Colorado Planned Parenthood clinic, according to a law enforcement official, part of a rambling statement that investigators are parsing to understand the reasoning behind an assault that left three dead.

Colorado Springs police on Sunday said they would not disclose any information on the motive for the attack, a move that guarantees further speculation over the intention of Dear, whom acquaintances described as an odd, reclusive loner, as he prepares for his initial appearance in state court on Monday.

Planned Parenthood cited witnesses as saying the gunman was motivated by his opposition to abortion. He killed a police officer and two civilians who were accompanying separate friends to the clinic: Jennifer Markovsky, 36, a mother of two and Ke’Arre Stewart, 29, an Iraq War veteran and father of two.

The law enforcement official who recounted Dear’s statement spoke on condition of anonymity because the official was not allowed to publicly discuss the ongoing investigation. The official said the “no more baby parts” comment was among a number of statements he made to authorities after his arrest, making it difficult to know his specific motivation.



AP
Colorado Springs shooting suspect Robert Lewis Dear of North Carolina is seen in undated photos provided by the El Paso County Sheriff's Office.

Still, U.S. Attorney John Walsh said investigators have been in touch with lawyers from the Justice Department’s Civil Rights and National Security divisions, suggesting officials could pursue federal charges in addition to state homicide ones. One possible avenue is the 1994 Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act, which makes it a crime to injure or intimidate clinic patients and employees.

The attack thrust the clinic to the center of the debate over Planned Parenthood, which was reignited in July when anti-abortion activists released undercover video they said showed the group’s personnel negotiating the sale of fetal organs.

Planned Parenthood has denied seeking any payments beyond legally permitted reimbursement costs for donating the organs to researchers. Still, the National Abortion Federation says it has since seen a rise in threats at clinics nationwide.

Vicki Cowart, the regional head of Planned Parenthood, said Sunday on ABC’s “This Week” that the organization has faced hateful speech.

“I can’t believe that this isn’t contributing to some folks, mentally unwell or not, thinking that it’s OK to—to target Planned Parenthood or to target abortion providers,” she said.

Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper on CNN’s State of the Union called the attack “a form of terrorism” and said people need to be mindful of “inflammatory rhetoric.”

Anti-abortion activists, part of a group called the Center for Medical Progress, denounced the “barbaric killing spree in Colorado Springs by a violent madman” and offered prayers for the dead and wounded and for their families.

Cowart said the gunman “broke in” to the clinic Friday but didn’t get past a locked door leading to the main part of the facility. She said there was no armed security when the shooting began.

He later surrendered to police after an hours long standoff.

Nine other people were hospitalized, including five officers. Cowart said all 15 clinic employees survived and worked hard to make sure everyone else got into safe spaces and stayed quiet.

Neighbors who lived beside Dear’s former South Carolina home say he hid food in the woods as if he was a survivalist and said he lived off selling prints of his uncle’s paintings of Southern plantations and the Masters golf tournament.

John Hood said Saturday that when he moved to Walterboro, South Carolina, Dear was living in a doublewide mobile home next door.

He pointed to a wooden fence separating their land and said he put it up because Dear liked to skinny dip.

## Planned Parenthood: Long a lightning rod in US culture wars

**NEW YORK** (AP)—As a leading defender of abortion rights and comprehensive sex education, Planned Parenthood deals daily with some of America’s most contentious issues, and is well accustomed to receiving verbal threats.

Some of the organization’s supporters say Friday’s deadly shooting at its clinic in Colorado Springs shows that the vitriolic rhetoric could be inspiring actual violence.

“It is time to stop the demonizing and witch hunts against Planned Parenthood, its staff and patients,” said Sen. Barbara Boxer, a California Democrat.

But critics show no signs of backing away from a multipronged offensive against Planned Parenthood, keeping protests and a congressional investigation on their agenda for the coming year.

The man arrested in the attack that killed a police officer and two civilians uttered the phrase “no more baby parts,” a law enforcement official said.

Authorities have not elaborated on the gunman’s possible motives, but Planned Parenthood said witnesses described him as an abortion opponent. The “body parts” phrase echoed rhetoric that surfaced last summer, when anti-abortion activists began releasing undercover videos they said showed Planned Parenthood personnel negotiating the sale of fetal organs.

The anti-abortion group that made the videos, the Center for Medical Progress, condemned the “barbaric killing spree in Colorado Springs by a violent madman.”

Planned Parenthood said any payments were legally permitted reimbursements for the costs of donating organs to researchers, and has since stopped accepting even that money. Though the videos have inspired multiple investigations in Congress and in several states, none has confirmed any law breaking by Planned Parenthood.

Since the videos surfaced, threats have become even more frequent, abortion-rights leaders say.

“We’ve seen an alarming increase in hateful rhetoric and smear campaigns against abortion providers and patients over the last few months,” said Vicki Cowart, president of Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains. “That environment breeds acts of violence.”

Security at Planned Parenthood facilities nationwide has been tightened as a result, said the organization’s spokesman, Eric Ferrero.

## Change in Thanksgiving weekend spending stumps retailers

By ANNE D’INNOCENZIO
AP RETAIL WRITER

U.S. shoppers no longer blow the bulk of their holiday budgets on the day after Thanksgiving known as Black Friday.

It’s a major shift that has made it difficult for stores to track and learn from shoppers’ spending habits during the traditional start to the busy holiday shopping season.

Take Pia Tracy, who bought some items at Pier 1 home furnishings store over the weekend. But Tracy, who lives in Queens, N.Y., plans to spread out the majority of her $4,000 holiday budget throughout the season.

“Black Friday weekend doesn’t matter to me anymore,” Tracy said. “There’s always some kind of deal in-store or online.”

Like Tracy, many U.S. shoppers like to make purchases on their desktops and smartphones nowadays, they insist on getting big discounts whenever they shop, and they don’t feel pressured to shop on particular days.

That shift has caused the National Retail Federation, the nation’s largest retail trade group, to overhaul the way it tracks shopper spending and visits during the four-day Thanksgiving weekend—something it’s been doing for more than a decade. The group said the changes are aimed at getting a fuller picture of shoppers’ habits, including their growing affinity for online buying.

The group, which has long been criticized for its estimates of total spending over the extended weekend because they’re based on shopper surveys and not actual sales data, said it will no longer track total spending for the weekend. It also said it’s asking shoppers different questions, which has led it to report numbers that vary significantly from those it’s gotten in previous years.

The moves are significant because retail experts, investors and economists look to the group’s Thanksgiving weekend numbers to provide an indication of the mood of consumers heading into the holiday shopping season, a period of historically strong spending.

The retail group on Sunday said more than 151 million people shopped in stores or online over the weekend, according to a survey of 4,281 shoppers. That compares with 133.7 million last year, but the group said those figures are not comparable because of its change in methodology.

It also estimated that spending per person was $299.60. That’s below the nearly $381 figure last year, but the group also said this year’s spending number is not comparable to those in previous years.

## ACROSS THE NATION

### Weather, flights aid post-Thanksgiving travel efforts

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Tens of millions of Americans returning home after the long Thanksgiving holiday weekend Sunday had cooperative weather and mostly efficient airport operations to thank for smooth traveling conditions. Other than a winter storm that is bringing freezing rain and snow to the central Plains Sunday night and into Monday, and flood warnings in northern Texas and Arkansas, weather across much of the country is seasonably mild, said National Weather Service meteorologist Bruce Sullivan. “Enjoy it while it lasts,” he said. Most airports across the country were running with delays of 15 minutes or less Sunday night, according to Federal Aviation Administration air traffic control system data. But a large volume of passengers at Seattle-Tacoma International in Washington, Newark International in New Jersey and LaGuardia in New York, led to slightly longer delays, the data show.

### Attorney: White House fence jump was act of protest

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—A college student who jumped over the White House fence while draped in an American flag was committing civil disobedience and had no plans to harm himself or others, his attorney said Sunday. Joseph Caputo, 22, of Stamford, Connecticut, was carrying a binder with “a rewritten Constitution” when he scaled the fence on Thursday, prompting a lockdown while President Barack Obama celebrated Thanksgiving with his family, attorney Stephan Seeger said. Caputo was the first person to jump over the White House fence since the Secret Service installed additional metal spikes earlier this year in response to a series of security breaches. Seeger said his client was different from previous fence jumpers, including a man who was armed with a knife and got deep inside the executive mansion before being arrested.

### University of Chicago cancels Monday classes after threat

**CHICAGO** (AP)—The University of Chicago is cancelling all classes and activities on its main campus Monday following an online threat of gun violence. The university says in a statement Sunday night that a threat from an unknown person was passed on to the university by the FBI. The threat mentioned the campus quad, a popular gathering place, and a time of Monday morning at 10 a.m., the statement says. Faculty, students and non-essential staff are asked to stay away from the Hyde Park campus on Chicago’s South Side Monday. Students in college housing are asked to stay indoors.

# Asia

## Tens of thousands overcome Delhi pollution in half marathon

**NEW DELHI** (AP)—The tens of thousands of people who participated in Sunday's half marathon in India's capital had more than just running 21 kilometers (13 miles) through New Delhi's streets on a misty, chilly morning to deal with. They also had to overcome the city's unparalleled air pollution.

Last year, the World Health Organization named New Delhi the world's most polluted city. Twelve other Indian cities ranked among the world's most polluted 20.

On Sunday, most of New Delhi's government-run air monitors were showing "very poor" readings, providing an extra challenge for those taking part in the annual half marathon.

More than 30,000 people participated in the race, according to the Press Trust of India, or PTI. Two runners were seen being taken to ambulances, but it was not known why they needed medical attention.

AP

Participants react as they reach the finish line during the Delhi Half Marathon in New Delhi, India, Sunday, Nov. 29, 2015.

Still, the event proceeded in a carnival atmosphere, with Ethiopia's Birhanu Legese and Kenya's Cynthia Limo winning the men's and women's elite categories.

"It is my first time in Delhi, and I have come up with a personal best," PTI quoted Legese, who finished in 59 minutes, 20 seconds, as saying. "It is even more satisfying considering the top six were so close."

PM2.5—the very fine particles that get lodged deep in the lungs and cause the most damage—crossed 300 at some places in New Delhi, but very few runners wore pollution masks during the race.

"I've never tried to run with a mask. The idea of wearing one for the race seems uncomfortable," said one of the runners, Shruti Saxena, a 41-year-old businesswoman who has been distance running in New Delhi for eight years. "We're breathing the same air even if we stop running, and I'd rather run than not."

The Delhi half marathon, in its 10th year, has become an important part of the city's calendar. The race, and the international runners it attracts, has encouraged a culture of running in a country where for decades the odd cricket game on the weekend was the most exercise most people got. Running groups are now gaining in popularity across the country.

The U.S. Embassy's air quality monitor, located in one of the greenest parts of the city, showed a reading of 283 this weekend, deemed so hazardous that the embassy advised that everyone avoid outdoor activities. The readings were nearly five times higher than what India deems acceptable and 11 times what's recommended by the World Health Organization.

The race is typically scheduled for late October or November, when the air is cooler and the scorching north Indian summer has ended. But the cold weather also leads to spikes in smog levels.

"It's a public health catastrophe," said Akshay Jaitley, a lawyer and longtime distance runner who has competed in races all over the world and ran in Sunday's half marathon.

"You can feel the difference," he said of training and running races in cities like Boston and London.

But he said he would continue to run in India's capital. "The benefits of running are more than not running," he said.

## ASIAN BRIEFS

### Steel factory gas leak kills 10, injures 7 in eastern China

**BEIJING** (AP)—A gas leak at a steel parts factory in eastern China has killed 10 people and left seven others hospitalized with poisoning. The Zouping County government says on its official microblog the leak occurred late Saturday and poisoned 17 people, five of whom died immediately. It says five more died early Sunday, and the cause of the leak is under investigation. Satellite images show the factory next to warehouses and low-rise residential homes in a village about 60 kilometers (40 miles) east of Jinan, the Shandong provincial capital. The deadly leak is the latest industrial accident in China, where authorities are under pressure to improve work safety after a huge chemical blast in Tianjin killed at least 140 people and left a swath of the port city in smoldering ruins.

### Japan industrial output, retail spending lag expectations

**TOKYO** (AP)—Japanese industrial output rose 1.4 percent in October from the month before, below forecasts and a decrease from the year before. Government data released Monday also showed retail spending fell in October from a year earlier. The slowdown in China has reverberated in neighboring Japan, the world's third-largest economy, which fell back into recession during the summer, contracting 0.8 percent in the July-September quarter. But industrial output rose month-on-month in both September and October, suggesting the recession may be short lived, Marcel Thieliant of Capital Economics said in a research note.

### PH forces kill 8 suspected to have IS sympathies

**MANILA, Philippines** (AP)—Philippine marines killed eight suspected sympathizers of the Islamic State group in a clash in the southern Philippines on Thursday, seizing bomb-making equipment, assault rifles and black flags, military officials said. The militants were killed in a brief clash at dawn in a hinterland off Palimbang town in Sultan Kudarat province, Brig. Gen. Emmanuel Salamat said. They were mostly Filipinos but one was possibly Indonesian. Recovered documents show the slain militants belonged to Ansar Al-Khilafa Philippines, a new militant group with about 50 fighters who pledged their allegiance to Islamic State group leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi last year. Marines found two assault rifles, a pistol, bomb-making equipment and materials, two-way radios, documents and five Islamic State group-inspired flags, some of which were displayed at the militants' encampment, according to a military report and Salamat. "Our forces were moving to arrest them but these lawless elements opened fire," Salamat said by phone. "We have received information that they were conducting bomb-making training and that they may take steps to expand their group, so they became a target of a law enforcement operation."

## Malaysian pleads guilty to indecent assault in New Zealand

**WELLINGTON, New Zealand** (AP)—A Malaysian military officer who was extradited to New Zealand after earlier leaving the country under the protection of diplomatic immunity pleaded guilty Monday to indecent assault.

Muhammad Rizalman Ismail faces a maximum of seven years in prison. He had earlier pleaded not guilty to more serious charges, including assault with the intent to rape. The court is scheduled to hear disputed facts in the case Friday ahead of any sentencing.

A police summary said the 21-year-old victim, Tania Billingsley, was alone in the bedroom of her Wellington home in May 2014 and watching a movie on her laptop when Rizalman, who worked at the Malaysian Embassy, broke in.

Rizalman took off his pants and underwear before opening the unlocked front door, the summary said. Inside the house, he took off his jacket and, wearing only a shirt, pushed open the bedroom door, saying "Can I come in?" according to the summary.

Billingsley began screaming and Rizalman grabbed both her shoulders, the summary said. The pair struggled before Billingsley managed to push Rizalman out of her bedroom and run to a bathroom where she called police.

Billingsley had bruises and marks on her arms and suffered considerable emotional trauma from the incident, the summary said.

Rizalman was arrested and charged at the time but returned to Malaysia less than two weeks later under diplomatic immunity protection. The case quickly became embarrassing for both countries.

New Zealand initially blamed Malaysia for invoking immunity but then later conceded its officials may have given the mistaken impression they did not oppose Rizalman returning home.

Billingsley decided to identify herself in July 2014 and to speak out publicly, saying she felt frustrated and angry Rizalman had been able to leave.

Rizalman returned to New Zealand following months of delay after Malaysia's government said he needed to undergo physical and mental examinations to ensure he was fit to stand trial, and lawyers drafted a special extradition document.

The case has raised questions about the moral implications of the 1961 Vienna Convention, which offers special legal protections to diplomats and their embassy staff.

## Gay rights activists march in New Delhi parade

**NEW DELHI** (AP)—Hundreds of gay rights activists danced to drum beats and held colorful balloons as they marched in a parade in New Delhi on Sunday, celebrating what they call the diversity of gender and sexuality.

Organizers said that while the gay pride parade celebrated the gains India's LGBT community has made in recent years, they also wanted to highlight the continuing discrimination it faces.

The Delhi Queer Pride Committee also demanded the repeal of Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code, which criminalizes homosexual acts.

Over the past decade, homosexuals have gained a degree of acceptance in parts of deeply conservative India, especially in big cities. Many bars have gay nights, and some high-profile Bollywood films have dealt with gay issues.

Still, being gay is seen as shameful in most of the country, and many homosexuals remain closeted.

On Sunday, Harsh Aggarwal, who runs a digital marketing company in New Delhi, said that there has been progress, though it has come slowly. "But it's happening," he said.

"There are more people who are coming out without masks. Society also is respecting us. That's the progress," he said.

Activists had cheered in 2009 when the New Delhi High Court declared Section 377 of the Penal Code unconstitutional. But the judgment was overturned four years later when India's Supreme Court decided that amending or repealing Section 377 should be a matter left to Parliament, not the judiciary.

# World

# Countries, investors pledge billions for clean energy tech

**PARIS** (AP)—Government and business leaders are banking on clean energy technology to fight global warming, kicking off this week?s high-stakes climate change negotiations by pledging billions of dollars to research and develop a technical fix to the planet?s climate woes.

Microsoft founder and philanthropist Bill Gates, President Barack Obama and French President Francois Hollande will launch a joint initiative on Monday after a diplomatic push in recent weeks ahead of the Paris climate conference.

A key goal is to bring down the cost of cleaner energy. At least 19 governments and 28 leading world investors, including Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg, billionaires George Soros and Saudi Prince Alaweed bin Talal, and Jack Ma of China?s Alibaba, have signed on so far.

?It?s quite a big deal,? said Jennifer Morgan, global climate director for the World Resources Institute. ?It brings a new kind of burst of energy into the conference right at the beginning on something very important.?

AP

A man with his face painted green particiaptes in a march against climate change near the Monument to the Revolution, in Mexico City, Sunday, Nov. 29, 2015.

The U.N. climate summit formally opened Sunday afternoon with a minute of silence for the victims of this month?s Paris attacks and vows not to let terrorism derail efforts to slow or stop climate change. A few kilometers (miles) away in Paris, police trying to secure the nation against new violence sprayed tear gas on protesters who defied a ban on demonstrations and lobbed projectiles.

A big sticking point at the climate talks will be money—how much rich countries should invest help poor countries cope with climate change, how much should be invested in renewable energy, and how much traditional oil and gas producers stand to lose if countries agree to forever reduce emissions.

The new initiative is twofold: a public-private project called Mission Innovation, led by governments, and the Gates-led investor group called the Breakthrough Energy Initiative.

The governments pledge to double their spending on low or no-carbon energy over the next five years, according to Brian Deese, senior adviser to Obama on climate and energy issues. They include leading energy producers and consumers, such as the U.S. China, India, Brazil, Saudi Arabia, Australia, Canada, France and Norway. They currently invest about $10 billion a year total, about half of which comes from the U.S., Deese told reporters in Washington.

Gates committed $1 billion of his money and was the ?intellectual architect? behind the effort to get investors involved, U.S. Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz said. The business leaders are making their pledges conditional on governments also pledging more money, said a former U.S. government official who is familiar with the plan.

President Barack Obama, who arrived in Paris late Sunday night, wrote on his Facebook page that ?we'll work to mobilize support to help the most vulnerable countries expand clean energy and adapt to the effects of climate change we can no longer avoid.?

The money would focus on research and development of technologies such as energy storage, which could make better use of clean power from wind and solar regardless of the vagaries of weather. It will also look at farming and transport.

But a multinational research effort combining the investments of governments, corporations and private individuals could create intellectual property problems.

## SIDEBAR Earth is a wilder, warmer place since last climate deal made

**PARIS** (AP)—This time, it's a hotter, waterier, wilder Earth that world leaders are trying to save.

The last time that the nations of the world struck a binding agreement to fight global warming was 1997, in Kyoto, Japan. As leaders gather for a conference in Paris on Monday to try to do more, it's clear things have changed dramatically over the past 18 years.

Some differences can be measured: degrees on a thermometer, trillions of tons of melting ice, a rise in sea level of a couple of inches. Epic weather disasters, including punishing droughts, killer heat waves and monster storms, have plagued Earth.

As a result, climate change is seen as a more urgent and concrete problem than it was last time.

"At the time of Kyoto, if someone talked about climate change, they were talking about something that was abstract in the future," said Marcia McNutt, the former U.S. Geological Survey director who was picked to run the National Academies of Sciences. "Now, we're talking about changing climate, something that's happening now. You can point to event after event that is happening in the here and now that is a direct result of changing climate."

Other, nonphysical changes since 1997 have made many experts more optimistic than in previous climate negotiations.

For one, improved technology is pointing to the possibility of a world weaned from fossil fuels, which emit heat-trapping gases. Businesses and countries are more serious about doing something, in the face of evidence that some of science's worst-case scenarios are coming to pass.

"I am quite stunned by how much the Earth has changed since 1997," Princeton University's Bill Anderegg said in an email. "In many cases (e.g. Arctic sea ice loss, forest die-off due to drought), the speed of climate change is proceeding even faster than we thought it would two decades ago."

Some of the cold numbers on global warming since 1997:

■ The West Antarctic and Greenland ice sheets have lost 5.5 trillion tons of ice, or 5 trillion metric tons, according to Andrew Shepherd at the University of Leeds, who used NASA and European satellite data.

■ The five-year average surface global temperature for January to October has risen by nearly two-thirds of a degree Fahrenheit, or 0.36 degrees Celsius, between 1993-97 and 2011-15, according to the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. In 1997, Earth set a record for the hottest year, but it didn't last. Records were set in 1998, 2005, 2010 and 2014, and it is sure to happen again in 2015 when the results are in from the year, according to NOAA.

■ The average glacier has lost about 39 feet, or 12 meters, of ice thickness since 1997, according to Samuel Nussbaumer at the World Glacier Monitoring Service in Switzerland.

# Pope brings peace message to Central African Republic

**BANGUI, Central African Republic** (AP)—Flanked by Vatican bodyguards in flak jackets and machine-gun-toting U.N. peacekeepers, Pope Francis plunged Sunday into conflict-wracked Central African Republic and urged the country's Christian and Muslim factions to lay down their weapons and instead arm themselves with peace and forgiveness.

Francis issued the appeal from the altar of Bangui's cathedral after arriving in the badly-divided capital on the final leg of his three-nation African tour.

Schoolgirls dressed in the yellow and white of the Holy See flag and women wearing traditional African fabric dresses emblazoned with the pope's face joined government and church authorities to welcome Francis at Bangui airport amid tight security.

Cheering crowds lined his motorcade route—about five kilometers (three miles) of it in his open-sided popemobile. The crowds swelled again at a displacement camp, where children sang him songs of welcome and held up hand-made signs saying "Peace," ''Love" and "Unity."

"My wish for you, and for all Central Africans, is peace," Francis told the nearly 4,000 residents in the St. Sauveur church camp. With the help of a Sango translator, he then led them in a chant: "We are all brothers. We are all brothers."

"And because we are brothers, we want peace," he said.

Sunday's visit was a rare moment of jubilation in Central African Republic, where Muslim rebels overthrew the Christian president in early 2013, ushering in a brutal reign that led to a swift and horrific backlash against Muslim civilians when the rebel leader left power the following year.

Throughout the early months of 2014, mobs attacked Muslims in the streets, even decapitating and dismembering them and setting their corpses ablaze. Tens of thousands of Muslim civilians fled for their lives to neighboring Chad and Cameroon. Today, the capital that once had 122,000 Muslims has only around 15,000, according to Human Rights Watch.

Overall, 1 million people in a country of 4.8 million have been forced from their homes.

While ecstatic crowds celebrated the pope's visit and message of reconciliation, thousands of Muslims remained essentially blockaded in their neighborhood of PK5, unable to leave because of the armed Christian militia fighters called the anti-Balaka who surround its perimeter.

## WORLD BRIEFS

### EU, Turkey seek better relations at emergency refugee summit

**BRUSSELS** (AP)—European Union leaders and the Turkish prime minister sealed a joint summit with a commitment to re-energize Turkey's long-stalled membership talks and bolster their common resolve to deal with the Syrian refugee crisis. The 28 EU leaders were leaning hard on Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu to stem the flow of migrants seeking a better future in Europe's heartland and European Council President Donald Tusk said the latest estimate showed that "approximately 1.5 million people" had illegally entered the bloc this year, a lot coming through Turkey. It left the EU in need of help from Ankara, even if their recent relations have been sown with discord. On Sunday, it was hugs all around as Tusk and Davutoglu completed what they called a breakthrough summit to put relations on an even keel again. "Turkish membership will be an asset," said Davutoglu after "no disagreements emerged" during the hastily-called emergency meeting.

### Iraqis find 3 more mass graves in formerly IS-held Sinjar

**IRBIL, Iraq** (AP)—Kurdish officials said Sunday three more mass graves have been found in the northern town of Sinjar, where Kurdish forces backed by heavy U.S.-led airstrikes drove out Islamic State militants earlier this month. The discovery brings the total number of burial sites in the area to five and the total number of bodies uncovered to between 200 and 300, according to local officials. While experts say proper excavation and identification of the bodies could take months, Sinjar residents are expressing frustration with the process so far, complaining that their requests from the Kurdish Regional Government for expert help have gone unanswered. Residents are seeking a faster identification process and assistance in rebuilding the town, much of which is uninhabitable after more than a year of clashes and airstrikes.

### Fathers' rights protesters climb onto Buckingham Palace roof

**LONDON** (AP)—British police say two men have scaled Buckingham Palace in an apparent protest over fathers' rights. London's Metropolitan Police force said officers were called Sunday afternoon to reports of a protest at the Queen's Gallery, part of the royal residence. Police said "two males were found to have climbed on to the roof of the entrance." They were still there several hours later, and police said they were speaking to the men. Queen Elizabeth II was not believed to be staying at the London palace Sunday. Britain's Press Association news agency said the men, Martin Matthews and Bobby Smith, are calling for more rights for fathers in divorce and separation cases. Protest group Fathers 4 Justice said it was not behind the stunt, which it blamed on a copycat group.

# Overdrive

# Nissan redesigns the Maxima sport sedan for 2016

By EMMA JAYNE WILLIAMS
FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

The Nissan Maxima has been completely redesigned for 2016, with all-new sheet metal featuring deeply sculpted character lines created using a special stamping technique.

Maxima has evolved over the past 35 years from a tight, sporty four-door to a luxurious full-size sedan. The restyling of the eighth-generation model includes a new grille, headlights and front end.

The sculpted sides flowing back to the broad rear quarters, deeply scalloped doors and the "floating roof," introduced in 2014, give the Maxima four-door sedan a distinctive sport coupe look.

Gloss-black roof support pillars blend seamlessly into the glasswork, giving the appearance of a fighter jet canopy. In fact, Nissan designers visited the Navy's Blue Angels and studied the configuration of fighter jets to design a sports car "built to fly."

Maxima offers five trim levels, priced from $32,410 to $39,860. No options packages are available, as each model builds on the previous and comes with lots of standard equipment.

But lots of accessories are available, from a trunk net for $35, to ground lighting for $240, to 18-inch machined aluminum-alloy wheels with dark-painted pockets for $900.

A 300-horsepower 3.5-liter V-6 engine and a completely re-engineered continuously variable transmission with column-mounted shifter paddles are standard for all models.

More than 60 percent of the legendary VQ V-6 engine has been redesigned, from sodium-filled exhaust valves and anodized pistons, to a high-flow induction system.

Maxima's CVT has also been re-engineered for a more-connected, spirited driving experience—with the bonus of increased fuel economy.

Drive Mode Select offers two distinct shift options—Normal and Sport. Normal mode is smooth, refined and very fuel efficient. Sport mode kicks it up a notch with sharper throttle response, heavier steering, quicker shifting and a satisfying roar from the engine.

New for 2016, Maxima has "zero gravity" seats, designed to contour to the body's natural position and especially support the lower and mid back, reducing fatigue and pressure on the lower back. Bolstering at the right height and width helps keep you in position, even during aggressive turns.

The 2016 Nissan Maxima boasts good looks, fuel economy and loads of features at a competitive price.
NISSAN/TNS

The NissanConnect navigation/infotainment system (powered by SiriusXM) debuts in the new Maxima. It works through your smartphone and the integrated telematics control unit, and connects you, your world and your car. Play music, access your social network or navigate any city with a host of features and apps.

An 8-inch color display with multi-touch control (allows pinching, zooming, and swiping) displays NissanConnect with Navigation functions, as well as climate settings and images from the rearview camera.

With the "swipe to meter" feature, directions can be sent from one screen to another with a simple swipe.

Google Search with voice-guided turn-by-turn directions, Bluetooth hands-free phone, audio streaming, and text-messaging assistant are included, as well as two iPod/USB ports and one 12-volt outlet. Navigation and audio voice control is also available.

The tall center stack has been rotated seven degrees toward the driver, positioning every display, button, and knob perfectly for quick, easy, intuitive command and excellent visibility.

Display Commander, located just behind the gearshift, allows the driver to toggle up and down, side-to-side, scroll, rotate and control the entire system without looking down or touching the display screen.

A Bose Sound System with 11 speakers and Active Noise Cancellation is standard for the SR, with satellite radio, including SiriusXM Traffic and Travel Link.

Active Noise Cancellation monitors unwanted engine noise using microphones in the front and rear, and helps to cancel it out. Another part of the system, Active Sound Enhancement, generates a signal to enhance or modify select engine sounds and provides a smooth or sporty sound inside the cabin, as desired.

The Advanced Driver-Assist Display's seven-inch screen directly behind the steering wheel displays turn-by-turn directions, caller ID, and safety features such as Predictive Forward Collision Warning and tire-pressure monitoring with easy-fill tire alert to minimize the amount of time the driver looks away.

## UNDER THE HOOD

# Key keeps getting stuck in ignition

By BRAD BERGHOLDT
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**Q: It's very difficult to remove the key from the ignition of my 1991 Honda Civic when the car is cold. As the car warms up, this issue seems to go away, and there is no problem removing the key when the vehicle is not running. These are factory keys I am using. I have tried Lock-Ease and other lock lubricants to no avail. Do I have to replace the ignition key cylinder, or is there an easier (and less expensive) way to deal with this?**

**A:** If your Civic has a manual transmission and the concern is solely removing the key, not turning it, the fault is likely being caused by the lock cylinder. If rotating the key is a problem, the steering lock mechanism could also be a cause, perhaps due to wear or dried out lubricant. This is the housing the lock cylinder inserts into. The ignition switch also attaches to it. It sounds like you've done a good job attempting to lubricate the lock cylinder, so additional remedies are called for.

Renewing a manual transmission Civic ignition lock cylinder is pretty simple and the replacement part can be readily found for about $50. Once the dashboard lower cover, knee bolster and steering column covers are removed, the lock cylinder is removed by depressing a pin (button) on the steering lock unit (key is inserted before this, and turned to position 1) and pulling outward. The new cylinder simply locks into place upon insertion.

Automatic-transmission Civics are another matter. With these, a more likely cause may be that the cable mechanism from the shifter is sticking, affecting proper ignition switch function. Try jiggling the shifter as it is placed in park or perhaps shove it home more briskly. A change in symptom confirms this as the cause. Due to the awkward nature of this mechanism on seasoned vehicles, many folks simply disconnect it. According to Honda service literature, on automatic transmission vehicles, the lock cylinder and steering lock is serviced as an assembly.

Should the steering lock assembly need to be replaced, this isn't a pleasant prospect as the part runs about $300 and is retained with break-off head bolts that must be drilled out or chisel-rotated to remove. Due to the finesse and vocabulary required to remove these, the job may be best left to a pro. In both of the above cases you'll have a new ignition key. The original will still be needed for the door locks.

**Q: I've been smelling a sweet, citrus-like odor from the outside front of my car after parking it. Any ideas what it could be?**

**A:** I'm thinking coolant leak. Is there evidence below the front of the car of colored fluid dripping? It's possible the leak is small and is pocketing somewhere or boiling off rather than dripping to the ground. Check the coolant level (engine cold) and top off with tap water as needed prior to seeking service. A pressure check and careful visual inspection should determine the cause. With luck it may be something as simple as a split hose or loose hose clamp. Overheating and lack of oil are the two most unfortunate and easily preventable engine catastrophes I can think of!

*Brad Bergholdt is an automotive technology instructor at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif. Readers may send him email at under-the-hood(at) earthlink.net; he cannot make personal replies.*


*In Loving Memory of*

**Ursula "Sue" Cruz Reyes**

Born to Life: September 7, 1959
Called to Eternal Rest: November 24, 2015

***In Her new life, She will be greeted by:***
**Grandparents:** †Vicente T. & †Ana L. Cruz
†Vicente G. & †Maria SN. Reyes
**Parents:** †Donicio San Nicolas Reyes & †Rosa Cruz Reyes

***Will always be remembered in the hearts of her:***
**Son:** Dimitri Cruz Reyes
**Common-law:** Miguel Viches & Children
**Brothers/Sisters & Families:**
Bernadita C. Reyes and Family
Ana R. & Tom Erickson & Family
Joan R. & Gilbert M. Cabrera & Family
Marie C. Reyes & Edward Shai & Family
Donicio (Jr.) C. & Trinidad C. Reyes & Family
Vincent C. & Nieves Reyes & Family
Joe John C. Reyes & Eileen SN. Taitano & Family

***She will be missed by numerous aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.***

Last respects may be paid on Wednesday, December 2, 2015, beginning at 8:00 am at San Jose Church, Tinian. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 am and interment services will immediately follow at the San Jose Public Cemetery.

***Thank you for your thoughts and prayers.***

# Life & Style

## 'Gods of Egypt' studio, director apologize for white cast

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—"Gods of Egypt" director Alex Proyas apologized for casting mostly white actors in his upcoming film based on Egyptian mythology.

The filmmaker and studio Lionsgate issued separate statements on Friday acknowledging the controversy sparked by the release of the film's first trailer two weeks ago, featuring a cast led by Scottish actor Gerard Butler and Danish actor Nikolaj Coster-Waldau.

Australian director Proyas, who was born in Egypt, said it is clear that their casting choices should have been more diverse.

Lionsgate also said they are deeply committed to making films that reflect the diversity of their audiences and pledged to do better.

"Gods of Egypt" also stars actor Chadwick Boseman, an African American, and actress Elodie Yung, who is French-Cambodian.

"We recognize that it is our responsibility to help ensure that casting decisions reflect the diversity and culture of the time periods portrayed," read Lionsgate's statement, first reported by Forbes. "In this instance we failed to live up to our own standards of sensitivity and diversity."

This self-aware response, issued well in advance of the film's Feb. 26 release, comes on the heels of recent whitewashing controversies surrounding films like "Exodus: Gods and Kings," and "Aloha."

"Selma" director Ava DuVernay took note of the anomaly on Twitter.

"This kind of apology never happens—for something that happens all the time," wrote DuVernay on Friday. "An unusual occurrence worth noting."

Ridley Scott's "Exodus: Gods and King," which featured Christian Bale as Moses and Joel Edgerton as Ramses, was criticized last year for its predominantly white cast.

Proyas

Director Ridley Scott brushed off condemnations at the time, blaming the model of financing Hollywood movies for his choices. He told trade publication Variety that he would not be able to get the film financed by casting "Mohammad so-and-so from such-and-such."

"It's always art against economics," Scott told The Associated Press last December. "As soon as you're at the higher levels of budgeting, you've got to get the film made and the only way to support the film is to have actors who can support the budget."

Earlier this year, Cameron Crowe's romantic dramedy "Aloha" drew similar public disapprovals for casting Emma Stone as a character who is supposed to be of Chinese, Hawaiian and Swedish descent.

In a June message posted on his website, TheUncool.com, Crowe explained that the character was always intended to be someone frustrated that she lacked outward signs of her ethnicity, while also apologizing to those who felt it was "an odd or misguided" choice.

"So many of us are hungry for stories with more racial diversity, more truth in representation," added Crowe. "I am anxious to help tell those stories in the future."

Hollywood has a long tradition of casting white actors as other ethnicities, but lately the practice is not going unchallenged and is often put under scrutiny as soon as castings are announced, as was the case with Joe Wright's "Pan," where Rooney Mara played Tiger Lily.

An outright apology prior to a film's release in the case of "Gods of Egypt" is perhaps a sign that currents are changing.

As Blacklist founder Franklin Leonard noted on Twitter, Proyas' and Lionsgate's apologies are both "too little, too late" and also "kinda remarkable."

## Art program gives Boston's homeless a place to create

**BOSTON** (AP)—In an elegant church in one of Boston's most chic shopping districts, homeless people from across the city gather once a week to express themselves in ways not possible when living on the streets.

As winter approaches, attendance at Common Art increases, and as many as 100 homeless and low-income people paint, draw, knit, sew, make jewelry or engage in other crafts that allow them to boost their self-esteem and make a little cash.

Chris Haubrich started coming to Common Art about 10 years ago when he was homeless and still comes regularly even though he now has an apartment.

"This is the place that saved me," Haubrich said, dabbing at a colorful painting of a parrot. "This is my safety net."

"I was a kid who grew up being told I couldn't do anything," he said. "I had no patience, and this has brought out my patience, given me focus."

Common Art was founded in 1996 when a homeless person told a local pastor that he wanted a place to be creative, said Amanda Grant-Rose, executive director of Common Cathedral, the nondenominational ministry that oversees the program.

"This is an opportunity to escape from their day," she said. "This is an opportunity for self-expression, and it's an opportunity for income."

The art is sold on the sidewalk outside the church, and every Sunday some participants travel to Boston-area churches to sell their work. Pieces can go for a few dollars to $50 or more.

Participants use the income for more art supplies, maybe a hot meal or even a night or two in a hotel when temperatures plummet, said Heidi Lee, the program's artist-in-residence.

Common Art is now held every Wednesday, without fail, at Emmanuel Episcopal Church on swank Newbury Street—even when Wednesday falls on Christmas, or during the worst of winter storms.

"That's when people really need a place to go," said Lee, whose job is to provide instruction, advice and encouragement.

Art is just one example of the creative outlets that shelters and homeless organizations across the country offer, said Megan Hustings, interim director of the National Coalition for the Homeless. Several cities have street newspapers. Some shelters offer writing and poetry workshops, or even dance, aerobics and yoga classes.

"Homelessness is very difficult, it can be very debilitating, and when you're going through stressful times ... having the opportunity to have some kind of normalized experience is very positive," she said.

Romani Berlekov, a homeless artist, paints a landscape of a beach on the Connecticut coast from a cell phone image at the Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Boston, Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2015. AP

Haubrich typically creates mountain scenes using acrylic paints on canvas, but he has branched out recently to animals.

His mountain scenes are inspired by the late Bob Ross, the soft-spoken, bushy-haired art instructor on the PBS series "The Joy of Painting," he said. The program has boosted his self-worth and taught him how to get along with others.

"I've learned how to respect one another, how to respect different cultures, and I've learned responsibility, leadership," he said.

Artistic experience is not necessary.

"I couldn't even draw a stick figure when I started here," said Jeff Shaw, who mixes joint compound with paint to create abstract works.

All are welcome, whether they choose to participate in artistic expression or not.

On a recent rainy Wednesday, one man sat quietly on the perimeter of the room absorbed in a book. Others spread out sleeping bags and blankets on the stage and fell asleep. Some people just hung out, chatting. Some just showed up for a cup of coffee and a hot meal.

And that's OK.

"You don't have to create," Grant-Rose said. "It's about community. We welcome everybody."

## Sinatra's birthplace commemorates his 100th its way

**TRENTON, N.J.** (AP)—Chicago was his kind of town, L.A. was his lady and he certainly was a big part of New York, New York. But despite a love-hate relationship, the mile-square New Jersey city where Frank Sinatra was born is finding the centennial of his birth to be a very good year.

Throughout 2015, Hoboken has remembered its native son, who died in 1998 at age 82, with outdoor screenings of his movies, a "Sinatra Idol" competition and concerts that will be capped by a centennial birthday bash on Dec. 12 at the Stevens Institute of Technology, which awarded the high school dropout an honorary degree in 1985.

The small-scale event is not generating the same buzz as "Sinatra 100—An All-Star Grammy Concert" on Dec. 2 in Las Vegas, featuring Tony Bennett, Lady Gaga, Celine Dion and other performers.

Even so, the Hoboken Historical Museum has seen a 300 percent jump in visitors since opening a Sinatra exhibit in early August and has hired extra staff, director Robert Foster said.

"Whenever we do something on Sinatra, people come out of the woodwork," Foster said. "We enjoy the fans because they are so loyal and he means so much to them."

Lacking any major items that belonged to Sinatra, the museum tells his story through media displays and visitors receive a map with their $4 admission that features Sinatra sites.

Greta Wilson, who was born and raised in Hoboken, said Sinatra is "always the first thing" people ask her about when they learned where she is from.

"They always wanted to know if I had seen him in a store or a movie theater or some other place in town, and if he was like a regular person or if he acted like a stuck-up movie star," she said.

A plaque marks the former building at 415 Monroe St. where Sinatra was born in 1915 to middle-class parents.

"He had a nice life," said Chuck Granata, who co-produces and engineers the "Nancy for Frank" satellite radio program with Sinatra's oldest daughter, Nancy. "Frank was not poor and was probably one of the more fortunate kids growing up."

His mother made sure her son had nice clothes and even a car, which helped him gain a spot in 1935 with the singing group the Hoboken Four. They won first prize on a national radio program for amateur entertainers, and Sinatra started along a path that led to big bands, bobby soxers and fame.

However, some Hoboken residents felt Sinatra had forgotten them, reflected in the reception he got when he rode on a float in a 1947 parade and was pelted with tomatoes, according to biographer Ed Shirak. Sinatra later called Hoboken a sewer.

Urban blight plagued the city until the 1970s, when New Yorkers started crossing the Hudson River to renovate brownstones and build condominiums. The icy relationship began to thaw in 1979 when the city changed River Road to Sinatra Drive. A park and the city's main post office would also bear his name.

Hoboken these days reflects Sinatra cool, where fashionable young hipsters roam the city's bars and restaurants after spending the day working in Manhattan.

Wilson, 68, who now lives on Long Beach Island, said she thought Sinatra was a great representative for Hoboken.

"People unfamiliar with Hoboken seem to think of it as a dumpy small Jersey town, filled with people who really want to live in New York City," she said. "Frank helped put Hoboken on the map, and people still come there to this day just see 'his town' and learn more about him. Hoboken owes Sinatra a lot."

# Adele's '25' sells record-breaking 3.38 million copies

## Palace releases photos of 6-month-old Princess Charlotte

**LONDON** (AP)—Princess Charlotte looks delighted with a cuddly toy dog in a photo taken by her mother, the Duchess of Cambridge.

It's one of two images of the 6-month-old princess released Sunday by Kensington Palace.

The pictures of Charlotte in a Liberty print dress and pink cardigan were taken earlier this month at Anmer Hall, Prince William and Kate's country home in eastern England.

The photos were released to thank well-wishers for all the "warm messages about Princess Charlotte" the family has received.

Princess Charlotte Elizabeth Diana was born May 2 and is fourth in to the British throne after Prince Charles, her father Prince William and her 2-year-old brother, Prince George.

DUCHESS OF CAMBRIDGE/AP

In this undated photo released Sunday Nov. 29, 2015, by Britain's Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, showing Princess Charlotte with her cuddly toy dog, at Anmer Hall in Sandringham, England. Princess Charlotte was born May 2, 2015, and the photo was taken by her mother, Kate Duchess of Cambridge, during November 2015.

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Adele's new album "25" has sold 3.38 million copies in its first week, smashing single week sales records, according to Nielsen Music.

As reported by Billboard, "25" is the first album to sell more than 3 million copies in one week in Nielsen's history, which has been tracking first week purchases since 1991. The previous record was held by 'NSYNC whose 2000 album "No Strings Attached" sold 2.4 million copies in its first week.

"25" has also become the best-selling album of the year, flying past the 1.8 million copies sold of Taylor Swift's "1989." Adele did not allow streaming services like Spotify to make "25" available.

Her previous album, "21" has sold 11.24 million copies in the United States.

AP

This CD cover image released by Columbia Records shows, "25," the latest release by Adele.

## 'Hunger Games' beats 'Good Dinosaur,' 'Creed' at box office

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Despite some mighty competition, Katniss and her crew dominated the box office once again.

"The Hunger Games: Mockingjay—Part 2" held on to its first-place spot in its second weekend in theaters, earning $51.6 million to top "The Good Dinosaur" and "Creed," which both debuted Wednesday, according to Rentrak estimates on Sunday.

The fourth and final installment in Lionsgate's highly successful series has grossed $198.3 million to date.

Audiences had their pick of genres over the crowded Thanksgiving weekend. Disney and Pixar's animated dinosaur movie took second place, bringing in $39.2 million Friday through Sunday, while "Creed," a new entry into the Rocky Balboa canon, came in third with $30.1 million.

Families accounted for 79 percent of "The Good Dinosaur's" audience. The film, which cost a reported $175 million to $200 million to produce, grossed $55.6 million in its first five days in theaters.

1. "**The Hunger Games: Mockingjay—Part 2**," $51.6 million *($62 million international).*
2. "**The Good Dinosaur**," $39.2 million *($28.7 million international).*
3. "**Creed**," $30.1 million *($2.3 million international).*
4. "**Spectre**," $12.8 million *($30.4 million international).*
5. "**The Peanuts Movie**," $9.7 million.
6. "**The Night Before**," $8.2 million.
7. "**The Secret In Their Eyes**," $4.5 million.
8. "**Spotlight**," $4.5 million.
9. "**Brooklyn**," $3.8 million.
10. "**The Martian**," $3.3 million *($51.4 million international).*

"This Pixar group has just been so consistent with high-quality storytelling that appeals to all audiences. This weekend's result is another testament to the way they do things," said Dave Hollis, executive vice president of distribution for Disney. "We are off and running in a great way and also set up for a very, very long run."

"Creed," meanwhile, came out swinging. The critically acclaimed Ryan Coogler-directed film focuses on the character of Apollo Creed's son, Adonis (Michael B. Jordan) who wants his own shot in the ring with the help of Rocky Balboa (Sylvester Stallone). The film cost $35 million to make and has earned $42.6 million over five days.

Its audience has been largely male and over age 25, according to exit polls.

"This is a movie that played broadly everywhere. You expect it to do well in the big markets and even the medium-size markets, but the small markets were just fantastic," said Jeffrey Goldstein, executive vice president of domestic distribution for Warner Bros. "The boxing element really resonates."

Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for Rentrak, said the indie sensibilities, critical response and stellar cast has made "Creed" the movie to see right now.

"This is a movie that's going to go the distance," Dergarabedian said.

James Bond film "Spectre," with $12.8 million, and "The Peanuts Movie," with $9.7 million, rounded out the top five.

"Victor Frankenstein" was not so lucky. The $40 million revival of Mary Shelley's monster classic, starring James McAvoy and Daniel Radcliffe, proved lifeless in theaters, earning just $2.35 million from Friday to Sunday.

Awards hopeful "The Danish Girl," starring Eddie Redmayne as the transgender artist Lili Elbe, also opened in four theaters with a solid $185,000.

No records were broken this Thanksgiving weekend, but that's more of a sign of a crowded slate than the health of the box office, Dergarabedian said.

"Rankings are not as important this weekend as how these films can play for the long haul," he said. "I haven't seen this crowded of a marketplace in years. ... I don't know how anyone would have time to see everything."

## Ex-US Rep. Patrick Kennedy and wife welcome new baby girl

**PROVIDENCE, R.I.** (AP)—Former U.S. Rep. Patrick Kennedy and his wife Amy are welcoming a new baby girl to their family.

The couple, who live in Brigantine, New Jersey, say Nell Kennedy was born at 4:31 a.m. Sunday.

They say in a statement that the happy and healthy baby girl weighed 6 pounds at birth. They also thanked well-wishers for their support.

The couple married in 2011 in the Kennedy family compound on Cape Cod in Massachusetts. They have two other daughters—Harper and Nora—and a son named Owen.

Kennedy, a Democrat, represented Rhode Island's 1st congressional district from 1995 until 2011, when he opted not to seek re-election. He's the son of the late U.S. Sen. Ted Kennedy of Massachusetts.

## HIV is treatable, but only if you know you're positive

DEAR ABBY: Today, Dec. 1, is World AIDS Day. With effective treatment, people with HIV can live as long as those without HIV. Fear, shame and ignorance remain barriers to testing and treatment, which can be more deadly than HIV itself.

People with HIV who are in treatment need never develop advanced HIV (formerly full-blown AIDS). Please encourage your readers, regardless of age, gender or sexual orientation, to get tested, and if positive, to get treatment. HIV can affect anyone.

MARY IN FREDERICK, MD.

**DEAR MARY: I'm glad you wrote. Knowing one's HIV status is extremely important because, unlike in years past, the disease can be controlled. But in order to do that and not spread it to others, it is essential that sexually active individuals get tested.**

**Readers, you can be a healthy HIV-positive person and control it IF you know you have it AND get treatment. Ask your doctor about being tested, if you have one. If you don't have a doctor, contact your county health department about how to find testing and treatment in your community, or visit www.freehivtest.net for information about free tests in many areas across the nation and abroad.**

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I am retired, divorced and never had children. My two sisters have four adult children between them. Their kids are all married and have children themselves.

Every Christmas there is a gift exchange, which I don't attend because I stay in Florida during the winter. At this stage in my life, I dread the holiday because it is expected that I spend a minimum of $50 per person for two dozen people.

I own some properties I am desperately trying to prepare for the market. At my age, I no longer need or want anything. It has reached a point where the "preferred" gift is money, which isn't the idea behind the Christmas holiday. How can I politely stop this habit?

MRS. EBENEZER SCROOGE IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

**DEAR MRS. SCROOGE: You politely stop the habit by telling your sisters in advance that you are trying to prepare your properties for sale and money is limited. Therefore, you will be buying Christmas gifts only for your younger grandnieces and -nephews from now on (if you choose). Be sure to send the adults lovely holiday cards, however, so they know they are remembered.**

■■■

DEAR ABBY: Besides the usual snoring most wives tolerate, I have had to endure something worse. At least once a week for the last few years, my husband will make a fist while asleep and swing it across the bed, striking me. The last time, it caused a tooth to chip, and frankly, it scares me to death.

He is by no means violent when awake. Other than sleeping on the couch, what can I do?

BLACK AND BLUE IN NEW JERSEY

**DEAR B AND B: Before your husband causes you any more physical harm, schedule an appointment for him with a sleep disorder specialist. For both your sakes, please don't put it off. Your doctor or medical insurance carrier should be able to refer you to one.**

■■■

*For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)*

## DEAR ABBY

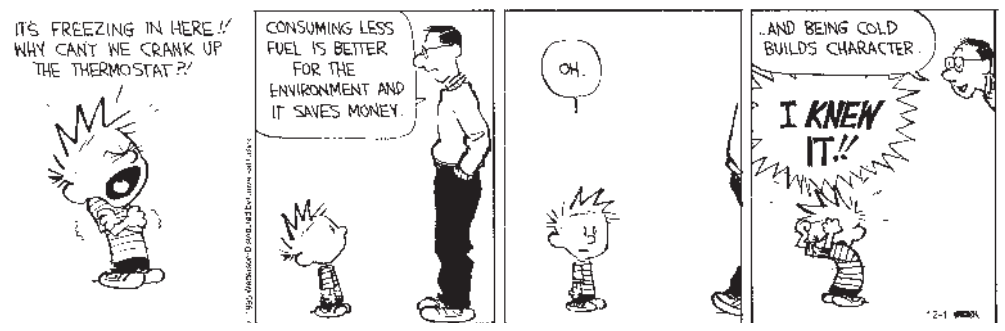
**By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

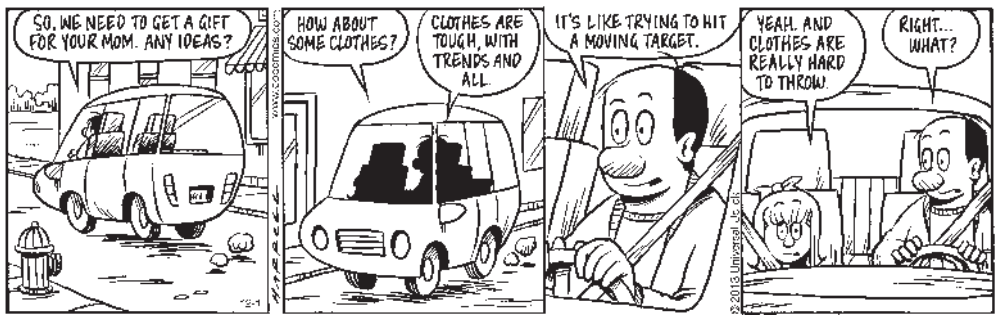

IT'S FREEZING IN HERE!! WHY CAN'T WE CRANK UP THE THERMOSTAT?!
CONSUMING LESS FUEL IS BETTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND IT SAVES MONEY.
OH.
..AND BEING COLD BUILDS CHARACTER.
I KNEW IT!!

## Garfield®

By Jim Davis

## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


SO, WE NEED TO GET A GIFT FOR YOUR MOM. ANY IDEAS?
HOW ABOUT SOME CLOTHES?
CLOTHES ARE TOUGH, WITH TRENDS AND ALL.
IT'S LIKE TRYING TO HIT A MOVING TARGET.
YEAH. AND CLOTHES ARE REALLY HARD TO THROW.
RIGHT... WHAT?

## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

LET'S GO GRAB A BURGER SOMEWHERE.
YOU SHOULD TRY COOKING. IT'S NOT THAT HARD.
DO YOU KNOW WHAT'S EASIER THAN COOKING?
WHAT?
NOT COOKING.

## CROSSWORD

*By Eugene Sheffer*

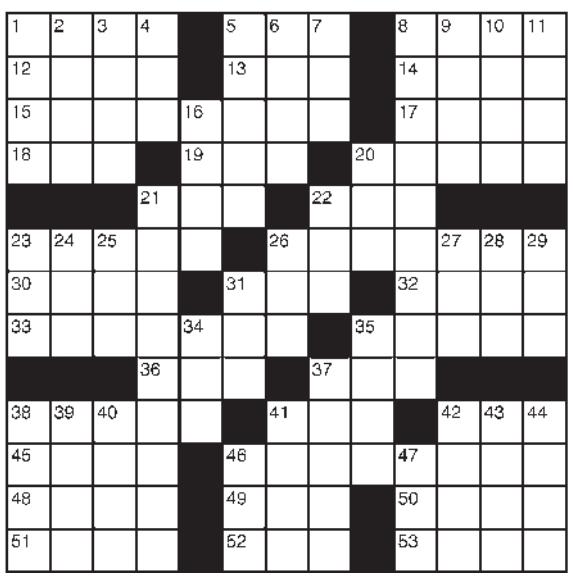
**ACROSS**
1 Recedes
5 "Told ya!"
8 Oasis tree
12 Hose woe
13 Website pop-ups
14 End in — (have no winners)
15 Salsa, e.g.
17 Angers
18 Tiny criticism
19 "Have some lasagna!"
20 Grind, as teeth
21 Poker prize
22 Jokester
23 Comics punch
26 Doggy treat
30 Blemish
31 Org. in "J. Edgar"
32 "Frozen" prince
33 Narnia's creator
35 About, date-wise
36 Fink
37 Cut (off)
38 First family in 1911
41 "Fast Five" star Diesel
42 Trio after F
45 "Sopranos" player Robert
46 Notice of dismissal
48 Sandwich shop
49 Pro
50 Cannes cash
51 Puppy's squeal
52 Media mogul Turner
53 Garden bane

**DOWN**
1 "NFL Live" channel
2 — B'rith
3 A Simpson
4 LAPD rank
5 Egypt's Anwar —
6 Blue-pencil
7 Psychic's claim
8 Benjamin Moore sample
9 Gillette brand
10 False-hoods
11 Netting
16 "Ouch!"
20 Joe and Jane
21 Misuse of authority
22 Xbox rival
23 Fast food initials
24 Franken and Gore
25 Buddy
26 They're hardly big shots?
27 Old Mid-east org.
28 Magazine for execs
29 Screening agcy. at LAX
31 Hale
34 "I — just kidding!"
35 Bop
37 Like notebook paper
38 Ship-shape
39 Sheltered, at sea
40 Took the plunge?
41 Bad habit
42 Broken-vase repair need
43 Take on
44 Music lover's Apple
46 Bit of butter
47 Use needle and thread

**Solution time: 22 mins.**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| T | I | P | | | R | A | G | | B | O | S | E |
| C | N | U | P | | B | I | O | | E | X | I | T |
| G | A | T | E | | | D | A | | C | O | B | S |
| C | N | T | O | P | | E | L | S | A | | | |
| | | | P | O | D | | S | T | U | C | C | O |
| A | N | G | L | E | R | S | | P | S | H | A | W |
| M | I | R | E | | E | K | G | | E | A | S | E |
| E | C | O | L | I | | I | M | B | O | F | E | D |
| R | F | G | I | F | | A | | F | | | | |
| | | | K | A | H | N | | I | V | K | E | S |
| L | I | F | E | | A | O | | O | I | S | E | |
| E | C | R | U | | N | E | A | | U | S | S | R |
| S | K | Y | S | | K | L | M | | | S | O | B |

Yesterday's answer 12-1



**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY**: Sarah Silverman, 45; Nestor Carbonell, 48; Bette Midler, 70; Woody Allen, 80.

**Happy Birthday**: Hard work, dedication and determination will be required if you are going to reach your goals. You'll be led astray easily if you are hesitant or let outside influences interfere. Strive for perfection and implement improvements that will make your personal life better and your professional life less stressful. Romance is highlighted. Your numbers are 3, 14, 19, 28, 39, 41, 43.

**ARIES** (*March 21-April 19*): Take on a new challenge or interest. Travel plans will give you an incentive to get things in order financially. Update your personal documentation. Changing your look will turn out well, and romance is heating up. ✪✪✪✪✪

**TAURUS** (*April 20-May 20*): Broaden your outlook by engaging in events or taking courses that will expose you to different philosophies or ways of doing things. Socializing with people from different backgrounds will inspire you to embrace new beginnings. ✪✪

**GEMINI** (*May 21-June 20*): Don't take on unreasonable responsibilities. You may want to help others, but you will end up being taken advantage of. Find out what's expected of you before you take on other people's problems. Focus on home and family. ✪✪✪✪

**CANCER** (*June 21-July 22*): A heated argument with someone close to you will result in unwanted changes at home. Keep the peace until you have a better view of the situation. Patience will be required. Protect against poor health or minor injury. ✪✪✪

**LEO** (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Your dramatic approach to life, love and bringing about positive changes will attract attention and enhance your reputation. Self-improvement projects will bring you that much closer to being your very best. Live, love and laugh. ✪✪✪

**VIRGO** (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Problems will surface at home and in your personal relationships if you overreact or are uncertain about what you want or who you want to spend your time with. Do some soul-searching and make choices that will clear up a misunderstanding. ✪✪✪

**LIBRA** (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Check out what's happening in your neighborhood or consider where you'd like to go on your next vacation. Build friendships and join forces with people who share your interests and concerns. ✪✪✪✪

**SCORPIO** (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Put your brainpower to use when it comes to your work, reputation and getting ahead. Change can be good if you go about it the right way. Don't stick to a format that doesn't make good use of your abilities. ✪✪

**SAGITTARIUS** (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Your need for adventure and excitement will work against you. Indulgence will be at the root of a series of escalating problems. Take a moment to rethink your desires and reconstruct your game plan. Make peace and love a priority. ✪✪✪✪✪

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN** (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Look out for your interests. Expect to be called upon to deal with situations that are spinning out of control. Stay calm and do what you can, but don't get in so deep that you will regret offering to help. ✪✪✪

**AQUARIUS** (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Share your emotions and discuss your plans with the ones you love. A change based on how you earn your living will be satisfying and could bring in more money to play with. A promise will lead to greater security. ✪✪✪

**PISCES** (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Problems with partnerships will be apparent. Be careful how you word what you say or you will be misinterpreted. Proceed with caution when dealing with authority figures or institutions. Focus on creative endeavors and helping a cause you believe in. ✪✪✪

**Birthday Baby**: You are playful, adventurous and inquisitive. You are helpful and outspoken.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

## SUDOKU

**Conceptis Sudoku** *By Dave Green*

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | | 4 | | | | 8 | | |
| 6 | | | 4 | | 7 | | 1 | |
| 1 | | | | 9 | 3 | | | |
| | | | | 8 | 6 | | | 4 |
| 2 | | | 3 | 5<br>1 | | | | |
| | | | 2 | 7 | | | | 8 |
| | 9 | | 1 | | 8 | | | 3 |
| | | 7 | | | | 2 | | 9 |

Difficulty Level ★★ 12/01

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

**Friday's SUDOKU Answer**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 7 | 9 |
| 7 | 6 | 3 | 9 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 4 |
| 2 | 9 | 1 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 8 | 3 | 6 |
| 1 | 4 | 9 | 2 | 7 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 8 |
| 3 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 1 | 7 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 9 | 2 |
| 8 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 9 | 2 | 7 | 4 | 1 |
| 9 | 1 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 8 | 6 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 9 | 8 | 5 |

Difficulty Level ★ 12/01

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## WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

**GOLDEN STATE WARRIORS — 2015 NBA CHAMPS Sol.: 7 letters**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| N | B | B | A | C | E | E | L | D | I | V | A | D | O | A |
| E | S | A | A | S | O | S | T | H | O | M | P | S | O | N |
| D | O | P | R | N | O | L | N | T | Y | E | K | A | L | B |
| O | B | N | E | N | K | B | L | E | F | K | E | B | C | R |
| V | R | O | O | I | E | S | R | I | F | A | R | R | L | U |
| I | I | O | G | P | G | S | H | A | N | E | R | U | A | S |
| C | E | D | C | U | A | H | E | O | B | S | D | C | R | H |
| I | N | A | U | O | T | K | T | U | T | S | E | E | K | W |
| M | L | C | R | A | U | S | G | S | E | S | L | L | N | A |
| Z | E | M | R | L | G | R | T | L | N | B | A | C | E | L |
| U | Z | P | Y | N | E | A | T | E | B | Y | W | A | T | T |
| K | E | A | I | E | R | I | F | I | V | N | O | R | A | O |
| N | L | V | N | V | T | F | R | E | T | E | P | O | T | N |
| P | I | I | G | U | O | D | A | L | A | C | O | B | S | D |
| L | B | A | S | K | E | T | B | A | L | L | A | N | I | F |

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Bankshot, Barbosa, Barnes, Basketball, Blake, Bogut, Bruce, Clark, Collins, Court, Craft, Curry, David Lee, Defense, Dribble, Ezeli, Final, Green, Guber, Iguodala, Kapono, Kerr, Klay, Kuzmic, Lacob, Livingston, Luke, McAdoo, Myers, Nedovic, O'Brien, Offense, Oracle, Peter, Pivot, Play, Ron, Rush, Speights, Star, Staten, Steve, Thompson, Titles, Walton, Watt

**Yesterday's Answer: Voiceless**

Purchase **WONDERWORD MILLENNIUM SERIES #1** or **#2** in time for the holidays! Order online at WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480. (Contains 100 puzzles.)

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCMENT
Mariana Entertainment LLC

## IMMEDIATE OPENING

**GENERAL OFFICE CLERK**
General office clerk needed. Light bookkeeping. Able to do general office work to assist manager and be familiar with QuickBooks. Responsible for daily, weekly and monthly sales reports. Report to accountant in preparation of various federal and government tax returns. Record daily account activities, maintain book of accounts.

**QUALIFICATIONS**
Must be proficient in MS word, excel, QuickBooks system software. Knowledge in general accounting. Can manage and monitor receivables and payables. Must have a minimum of 12 months of previous successful work-related experience in accounting. College graduate or equivalent preferred. Good Command of verbal and written English. Must have own transportation.

Interviewing Thursday December 3, 2015
1:00p.m to 4:00p.m
Marina Heights Business Plaza Suite 203
Please email your resume to
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Only Qualified U.S. applicant need apply.

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- (10) Plumbers
- (04) Heavy Equipment Operators
- (10) Building Maintenance Repairers
- (03) AC Technicians
- (10) Domestic Workers
- (06) Commercial Cleaners
- (02) Landscapers

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
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- (3) Mason
- (1) Plumber
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**235-6397**

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCMENT
Mariana Entertainment LLC

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**FULL OR PART-TIME POSITION**

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- Will Train.
- Responsible to proactively seek interaction with slot customer for purpose of building positive business relationships.
- Trouble shoot and assist guest with their slot machines issues and perform minor gaming machine malfunctions
- Reporting any machine operational or technical issues to appropriate technical support personal.
- Ability to accurately explain various game combinations payouts and jackpots

**QUALIFICATIONS**:
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# Kobe scores 13 after announcement, but Pacers beat Lakers

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Kobe Bryant scored 13 points on 4-of-20 shooting after declaring he will retire at the end of the season, and the Indiana Pacers hung on to send his Los Angeles Lakers to their sixth consecutive defeat, 107-103 Sunday night.

Paul George scored the Pacers' final 11 points in the last 1:27, finishing with 39 as Indiana opened a four-game West Coast road trip with its fifth straight victory despite blowing all but one point of a 22-point lead.

Bryant overcame another poor shooting night with two big late jumpers that reflected his vintage offensive skills. His quick-release 3-pointer from straightaway with 11 seconds left trimmed Indiana's lead to 104-103.

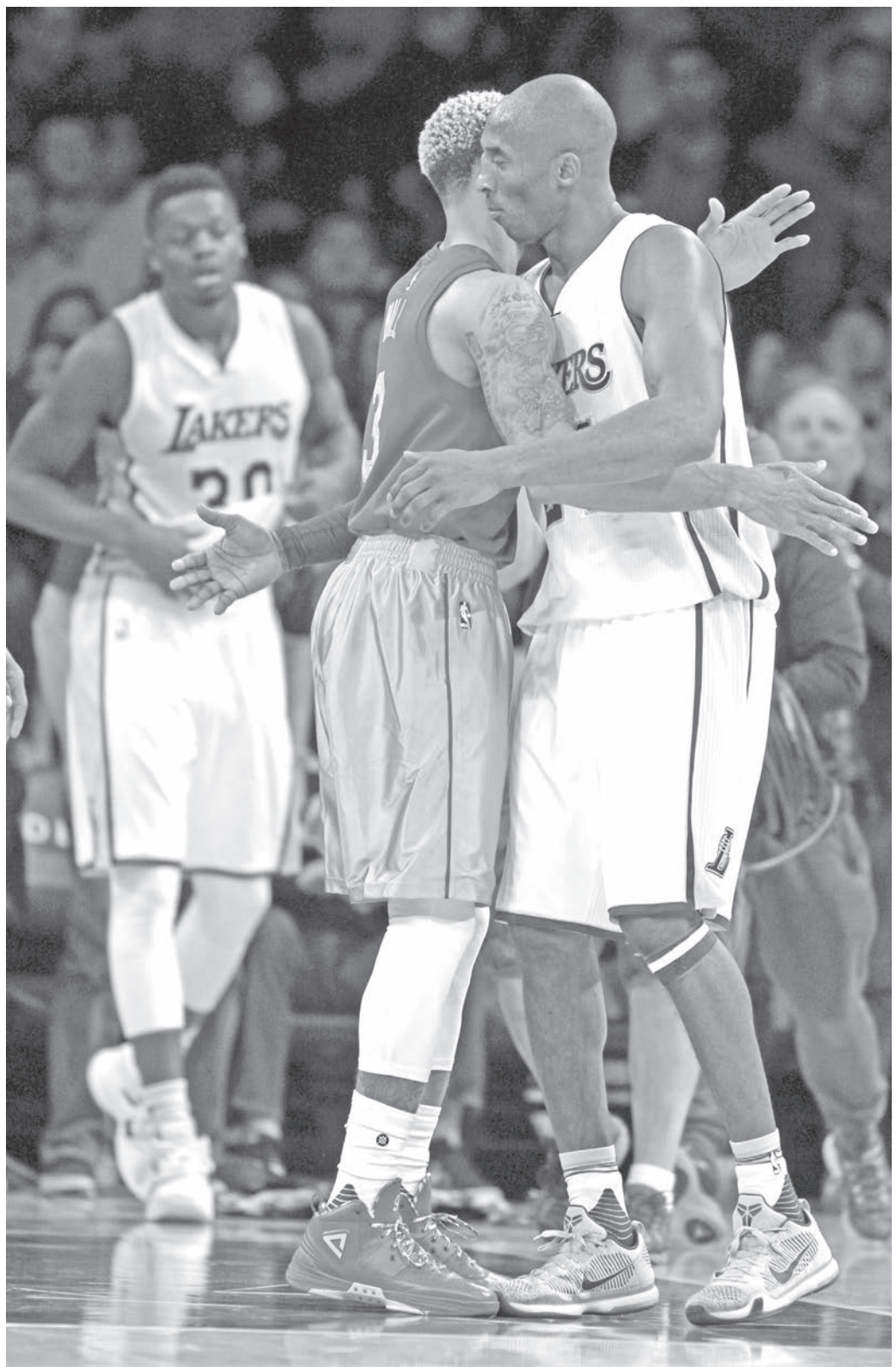
But after the Lakers got the ball back with a three-point deficit, Bryant shot an airball on a 3-pointer.

Bryant announced earlier in the day that his 20th season will be his last with the Lakers, who are off to a 2-14 start. Fans at Staples Center received letters of thanks from Bryant, the Lakers' career scoring leader and a five-time NBA champion.

Bryant intends to play out the season, but the third-leading scorer in league history had another regrettable night of shooting mixed with moments of his old brilliance. He missed his first six shots and went 2 for 15 in the first half, but his late 3-pointer trimmed Indiana's lead to 98-92.

Jordan Clarkson had 22 points and a career-high 10 rebounds for the Lakers. Nick Young hit six 3-pointers while scoring 22 points.

After trailing from the opening minutes, Los Angeles opened the fourth quarter with a 16-7 run. Bryant hit his first 3-pointer in five attempts with 1:19 to play, but George carried the Pacers with nine free throws in the last 1:07.



AP

Indiana Pacers guard George Hill, center, embraces Los Angeles Lakers forward Kobe Bryant, right, after defeating the Lakers during an NBA basketball game in Los Angeles, Sunday, Nov. 29, 2015.

### Grizzlies 92, 76ers 84

In Memphis, Tennessee, Zach Randolph had 17 points and 11 rebounds for Memphis to help send Philadelphia to a record-tying 18th straight loss to start the season.

The Sixers have lost an NBA-record 28 consecutive games dating to last season and at 0-18 matched the New Jersey Nets' start in 2009-10.

Mike Conley led the Grizzlies with 20 points, while Matt Barnes and Jeff Green finished with 13 apiece as Memphis won for the seventh time in the last nine.

Isaiah Canaan led the Sixers with 16 points, while Robert Covington and Hollis Thompson scored 12 points apiece.

The Sixers led 76-71 with 7:38 remaining and Memphis fans were booing their team. But the Grizzlies went on a 15-1 run to retake control of the game, with Randolph scoring eight points in the rally.

### Clippers 107, Timberwolves 99

In Los Angeles, Blake Griffin scored 12 of his 26 points in the final 6:32 to lead Los Angeles past Minnesota.

Griffin also had eight rebounds and seven assists, Chris Paul added 20 points and nine assists, and J.J. Redick added 18 points for the Clippers.

Los Angeles beat Minnesota for the 13th consecutive time and seventh straight at Staples Center. The Clippers tied their longest winning streak against any opponent in franchise history. They had a 13-game streak against Utah that ended Wednesday night with a 102-91 loss.

Andrew Wiggins scored 21 points for Minnesota.

### Suns 107, Raptors 102

In Toronto, Eric Bledsoe had 20 points and 11 assists, Mirza Teletovic also had 20 points as the Phoenix Suns beat the Toronto Raptors 107-102 to end a four-game losing streak.

Teletovic was 6 of 7 from 3-point range, Brandon Knight and Jon Leuer each added 16 points for the Suns, and T.J. Warren had 15.

DeMar DeRozan matched a Toronto season high with 29 points. Coming off a victory Saturday night in Washington, the Raptors had won four straight.

### Rockets 116, Knicks 111, OT

In New York, Trevor Ariza hit the tiebreaking 3-pointer with 1:14 left in overtime and Marcus Thornton made two free throws with less than a second left in Houston's victory over New York.

James Harden led Houston with 26 points. Thornton and Clint Capela each had 18, and Ariza finished with 16. Arron Afflalo had 31 points for the Knicks, who played without leading scorer Carmelo Anthony because of an illness. Kristaps Porzingis added 20 points and 13 rebounds.

### Hornets 87, Bucks 82

In Charlotte, North Carolina, Kemba Walker scored 22 points as Charlotte overcame the loss of center Al Jefferson to hold off Milwaukee.

Jefferson went out with a left calf strain with 5:09 remaining in the first quarter. Nicolas Batum added 15 points for the Hornets. They have won five of six, all at home.

Khris Middleton scored 19 points for the Bucks. They have lost three straight.

### Nets 87, Pistons 83

In New York, Thaddeus Young had 19 points and 10 rebounds, and Brook Lopez scored 15 points as Brooklyn beat Detroit to improve to 4-13.

Andre Drummond had his NBA-leading 15th double-double for Detroit with 20 points and 18 rebounds. Kentavious Caldwell-Pope had 21 points and seven rebounds.

### Magic 110, Celtics 91

In Orlando, Florida, Victor Oladipo scored 19 points and Nik Vucevic added 18 points and 10 rebounds to help Orlando beat Boston for its third straight victory.

Tobias Harris had 15 points and 11 rebounds for the Magic. Isaiah Thomas led Boston with 20 points and seven assists.

## Kobe Bryant says he will retire at end of season

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Kobe Bryant has decided to retire after this season, ending his 20-year career with the Los Angeles Lakers.

The 37-year-old Bryant made the announcement in a post on The Players' Tribune on Sunday, writing a poem titled "Dear Basketball."

"My heart can take the pounding. My mind can handle the grind. But my body knows it's time to say goodbye," wrote Bryant, the third-leading scorer in NBA history. "And that's OK. I'm ready to let you go. I want you to know now. So we both can savor every moment we have left together. The good and the bad. We have given each other all that we have."

Bryant went straight from high school in suburban Philadelphia to the Lakers in 1996, and he earned five championship rings and 17 All-Star selections during two decades with the franchise—the longest tenure with one team in NBA history. The top scorer in Lakers history also won two Olympic gold medals.

But Bryant's last three seasons have ended early due to injuries, and he played in only 41 games over the previous two years. He has struggled mightily in the first 15 games of this season with mostly young teammates on a rebuilding roster, making a career-worst 32 percent of his shots and dealing with pain and exhaustion every day.

The Lakers (2-13) hosted the Indiana Pacers on Sunday night, and fans arriving at Staples Center received a letter from Bryant in a black envelope embossed with gold.

"What you've done for me is far greater than anything I've done for you," Bryant wrote. "I knew that each minute of each game I wore purple and gold. I honor it as I play today and for the rest of this season. My love for this city, this team and for each of you will never fade. Thank you for this incredible journey."

In recent months, Bryant repeatedly said he didn't know whether he would play another season, clearly hoping for a rebound in his health and the Lakers' fortunes.

Neither has happened, and the ever-impatient Bryant didn't wait any longer to decide his future.

"Kobe Bryant is one of the greatest players in the history of our game," NBA Commissioner Adam Silver said. "Whether competing in the Finals or hoisting jump shots after midnight in an empty gym, Kobe has an unconditional love for the game. I join Kobe's millions of fans around the world in congratulating him on an outstanding NBA career and thank him for so many thrilling memories."

Bryant warmed up for Sunday's game amidst even more than the usual swarm of camera phones and flashes surrounding the court. He lip-synched along with a song during drills, and he stopped several times to hug familiar faces at courtside, including actor Michael B. Jordan, longtime Lakers fan Arsenio Hall and former Pacers great Reggie Miller, who got a long bear hug.

Bryant then missed his first six shots, including three 3-pointers, before making a layup late in the first quarter. He finished the first half with six points on 2-for-15 shooting.

Even during his late-career struggles with the foundering Lakers, Bryant's fans have remained devoted to the 6-foot-6 star who won titles alongside Shaquille O'Neal in 2000, 2001 and 2002 before teaming with Pau Gasol for two more in 2009 and 2010. Only 13 players in league history played on more championship teams than Bryant.

And even with the Lakers already likely to miss the playoffs for the third straight season—a first in franchise history—Bryant intends to keep going. He decided to suit up against the Pacers on Sunday even after playing 34 minutes at Portland on Saturday night.

"He kind of shocked me when he told me," said Lakers coach Byron Scott, Bryant's teammate during the 1996-97 season. "I'm just sad, more than anything. It's always hard when greatness like Kobe decides to hang it up. ... I thought he probably had at least another year, but this year isn't over."

Bryant is the NBA's highest-paid player this season with a $25 million salary bestowed on him by grateful Lakers owner Jim Buss despite his recent injury problems.

Bryant's presence guarantees wild crowds wherever the Lakers play. He has been tirelessly devoted to the franchise, repeatedly declaring he would never play for another NBA team in his final seasons despite the Lakers' wholesale rebuilding process following the disastrous 2012-13 season with Dwight Howard and Steve Nash.

# Broncos beat Patriots 30-24 on Anderson's OT run

DENVER (AP)—Filling in for Peyton Manning. Facing Tom Brady—and a two-touchdown deficit in the fourth quarter.

None of it bothered Brock Osweiler.

The 25-year-old quarterback making his first career start in Denver felt right at home in the snow globe that was Sports Authority Field on Sunday night, where the Broncos handed the New England Patriots their first loss, 30-24 in overtime.

It all reminded him of his youth in Kalispell, Montana, where misfires in the backyard ended up in snowbanks "and you'd have to dust off all the snow," Osweiler said. "Fortunately, when you play in the NFL, there are guys on the sideline that dust off all the snow.

"But, yeah, it was fun."

Not for Brady, who lost yet another one of his trusted targets when star tight end Rob Gronkowski injured his right knee with 2:49 left in the fourth quarter on a clean hit by safety Darian Stewart and was carted off the field.

Brady's receiving corps already was depleted with injuries to Julian Edelman, Danny Amendola, Aaron Dobson and running back Dion Lewis. If Gronkowski's injury is serious, it could be the biggest loss of all.

"He's been through a lot, he's a tough guy," Brady said. "Hopefully, it's not too serious. All of our fingers are crossed."

Stewart swept in low, trying to break up the pass that fell incomplete.

"I hate to see it but it's really the only way for defenders to hit now," Brady said. "I bet if you ask a bunch of players they'd rather you go high than low. When you go low that's what happens. I don't think it's dirty. I just think it's the way football's being played now."

Gronkowski, who caught his ninth touchdown pass and led New England with six receptions for 88 yards before getting hurt, didn't speak with reporters afterward. He walked to the team bus with a slight limp but no brace and coach Bill Belichick said he had no update.

The Broncos (9-2) won it when C.J. Anderson bounced a run outside and raced 48 yards down Denver's jubilant sideline with 12:32 left in overtime after its top-ranked defense forced a three-and-out thanks to a big sack by Von Miller and a huge hit by Shane Ray.

Manning watched from the cozy indoors as his backup brought the Broncos back from a 21-7 fourth-quarter deficit and Denver handed the Patriots (10-1) their first loss since 2014.

New England's last loss was a meaningless 17-9 defeat to Buffalo on Dec. 28 before the Patriots won three games to claim another Super Bowl trophy and then swept through their first 10 this season.

Now, the Carolina Panthers (11-0) are the NFL's only remaining unbeaten team.

The Broncos never led until Osweiler threw a 3-yard touchdown pass to Bubba Caldwell with 1:09 left in regulation to put Denver ahead 24-21. But Brady needed just five plays to drive the Patriots 51 yards and into range for Stephen Gostkowski's 47-yard field goal with no time left.

New England won the coin toss and Denver's defense, which lost starters T.J. Ward and Sylvester Williams to ankle injuries on the same play in the first half, had to go right back out.

"It didn't look good at times," Broncos coach Gary Kubiak said, "but we figured out a way to get it done."

Anderson rushed for 113 yards and two TDs on 15 carries. Overall, the Broncos ran for 179 yards, particularly impressive given their double-digit deficit for most of the night and their 21-7 hole after Brady threw a 63-yard scoring pass to Brandon Bolden on the first play of the fourth quarter.

The Patriots managed just 39 yards on 16 carries.

Osweiler completed 23 of 42 passes for 270 yards with one TD and one interception on a tipped pass. Brady also was 23 of 42 for 280 yards with three TDs and no interceptions.

With Manning sitting this one out in a walking cast on his left foot, the greatest quarterback rivalry was put on hold—perhaps forever.

AP

Denver Broncos running back C.J. Anderson (22) scores a touchdown as New England Patriots cornerback Duron Harmon (30) defends during the second half of an NFL football game, Sunday, Nov. 29, 2015, in Denver.

## Seahawks 39, Steelers 30

In Seattle, Russell Wilson threw a career-high five touchdown passes, including two TDs to Doug Baldwin in the final 8:12 as Seattle held on for a wild victory over Pittsburgh and Ben Roethlisberger.

Wilson threw three touchdowns to Baldwin, including an 80-yard catch-and-run score with 2:01 left after Pittsburgh had trimmed Seattle's lead to 32-30.

Baldwin caught a crossing route on third-and-10 at the 20, broke two tackles and raced for the clinching score. Baldwin caught a 30-yard TD midway through the fourth quarter after Pittsburgh had taken a 27-26 lead.

Wilson also threw two touchdowns to Jermaine Kearse and Seattle (6-5) picked up a huge victory in its hopes of getting back to the postseason.

Roethlisberger threw for 456 yards—the most ever against the Seahawks—but was pulled with 2 minutes left and taken to the locker room for concussion protocol. The Steelers (6-5) had a two-game win streak end.

## Cardinals 19, 49ers 13

In Santa Clara, California, Carson Palmer ran for a go-ahead 8-yard touchdown with 2:28 left and tumbled after spiking the ball as Arizona squeaked by San Francisco.

It was the Cardinals' fifth straight win and first road victory in the series since September 2008.

Moments earlier, Palmer fell backward as he released the ball and completed a 34-yard pass to J.J. Nelson to put Arizona on the 1.

Chandler Catanzaro missed the extra-point try, and Blaine Gabbert and the 49ers (3-8) had one more chance with 2:21 left. Anquan Boldin caught an 18-yard pass on fourth-and-20 to clinch the win for Arizona.

David Johnson ran for a 1-yard touchdown in the third for the Cardinals (9-2), who have nine wins in their first 11 games in consecutive seasons for the first time in franchise history.

## Texans 24, Saints 6

In Houston, Brian Hoyer threw for 205 yards and two touchdowns and the Texans held Drew Breese and New Orleans without a touchdown for the first time in 10 years in a win.

The Texans (6-5) have won four games in a row for the first time since winning six straight in 2012.

New Orleans (4-7) dropped its third straight on a day when the team didn't score a touchdown and Brees' streak of games with a touchdown pass was snapped at 45.

Hoyer went 7 for 7 on the opening drive, capped by a 10-yard touchdown pass to Ryan Griffin, to make it 7-0 and give Houston a score on the opening possession for the first time this season.

The last time the Saints didn't score a touchdown was Dec. 24, 2005 against Detroit and Brees' last game without a touchdown pass came on Nov. 29, 2012 against Atlanta.

## Bengals 31, Rams 7

In Cincinnati, Andy Dalton threw three touchdown passes—two of them to A.J. Green—as the Bengals ended their brief losing streak.

After dropping a pair of prime-time games, the Bengals (9-2) were back in sync against a team that struggles to score. The Bengals' 31 points equaled the second-most against St. Louis this season.

The Rams (4-7) have dropped four in a row. Nick Foles returned as the starter and threw three interceptions, including one that Leon Hall returned 19 yards for a touchdown.

Dalton was 20 of 27 for 233 yards with touchdowns of 9 and 18 yards to Green. Tyler Eifert also had his NFL-leading 12th touchdown catch.

## Vikings 20, Falcons 10

In Atlanta, Adrian Peterson ran for 158 yards and a pair of touchdowns, and Matt Ryan threw two more interceptions for the Vikings.

Bouncing back from a 30-13 loss to Green Bay, Minnesota (8-3) jumped ahead on Peterson's 1-yard run in the opening quarter, and clinched it when he got loose on a 35-yard scamper down the sideline with 4:15 remaining in the game.

Atlanta (6-5) has lost five of its past six, including four straight, and is in danger of becoming one of the few teams in NFL history to start 5-0 and miss the playoffs.

## Colts 25, Buccaneers 12

In Indianapolis, Matt Hasselbeck threw for 315 yards and two touchdowns, and Adam Vinatieri made four more field goals for the Colts.

The Colts (6-5) won their third straight to remain tied atop the AFC South with Houston.

Tampa Bay rookie Jameis Winston threw for 245 yards and a touchdown, but was sacked five times—four coming during a second half in which the Bucs (5-6) were shut out.

Indy took the lead for good on Hasselbeck's 9-yard TD pass to T.Y. Hilton midway through the third quarter. It extended the margin to 19-12 on Vinatieri's fourth field goal.

## Jets 38, Dolphins 20

In East Rutherford, New Jersey, Ryan Fitzpatrick threw four touchdown passes, two to Brandon Marshall, as the Jets gained some traction in the AFC wild-card race.

Fitzpatrick also connected with rookie Devin Smith and Eric Decker in New York's fourth win in the last five meetings with Miami. The Jets (6-5) had lost four of their past five overall.

Miami (4-7) has dropped four of five and is 3-4 under interim coach Dan Campbell, who took over after Joe Philbin was fired following the Dolphins' lopsided loss to the Jets in London.

## Redskins 20, Giants 14

In Landover, Md., Kirk Cousins threw a 63-yard touchdown pass to DeSean Jackson and scored off a quarterback sneak, and Washington intercepted Eli Manning three times as the Redskins pulled into a tie for the NFC East lead.

The Redskins and Giants are both 5-6. The Philadelphia Eagles (4-7) and Dallas Cowboys (3-8) are the other members of the mediocre division.

It was the 20th three-interception game of Manning's career.

Trailing 20-0, the Giants made it close when Manning threw fourth-quarter TD passes of 40 yards to Rueben Randle and 21 yards to Odell Beckham Jr., who made a fantastic diving catch, corralling the ball with his left hand while parallel to the ground.

## Raiders 24, Titans 21

In Nashville, Tennessee, Derek Carr threw a 12-yard touchdown pass to Seth Roberts with 1:21 left as Oakland ended a three-game losing streak.

The Raiders (5-6) handed the Titans (2-9) their ninth loss in 10 games. Tennessee had taken a 21-17 lead and thought they had a game-saving play when safety Michael Griffin broke up a pass in the end zone on fourth down. But officials flagged B.W. Webb for holding on the other side of the field.

Two plays later, Carr hit Roberts for the winning touchdown. Carr finished with 330 yards and three TDs in his sixth 300-yard passing game this season.

## Chiefs 30, Bills 22

In Kansas City, Missouri, Alex Smith threw for 255 yards and two touchdowns, and Spencer Ware ran for 114 yards and a score, as the Chiefs won their fifth straight.

Jeremy Maclin had nine receptions for 160 yards and a touchdown, and Cairo Santos hit three field goals for the Chiefs (6-5).

Tyrod Taylor had 291 yards passing and three touchdowns for Buffalo (5-6), but he was mostly held in check in the second half. So was Sammie Watkins, who had all six catches for 158 yards and his two touchdowns over the first 30 minutes.

## Chargers 31, Jaguars 25

In Jacksonville, Florida, Philip Rivers threw four touchdown passes, two to Antonio Gates, as the Chargers ended a six-game losing streak.

Rivers passed Joe Montana (273) and tied Vinny Testaverde (275) for 11th on the NFL's TD pass list.

Rivers completed 29 of 43 passes for 300 yards. He was sacked twice and had his left ankle checked in the locker room at halftime. But his TD passes were enough against the Jaguars (4-7), who failed to recover an onside kick in the closing minutes. The Chargers are 3-8.

# Shirato repeats at 22nd Annual Rota Blue Triathlon

Taro Shirato of Japan returned on Nov. 7, 2015, to win a second straight championship in the Olympic distance of the Rota Blue Triathlon. Seventy participants joined the 22nd annual race, mostly from Japan with one competitor from Guam.

Shirato took first place with a time of 2:18:30. Following him just a few minutes short was former champion Hideya Miyazuka in 2:23:17. Third place went to Nobuo Ito with a time of 2:45:41. In the female division, in first place was Miyuki Kiyomoto, clocking in at 2:54:03. Behind her taking second place was Kanako Shiotami with a time of 3:27:18. In third was Sonomi Sato, crossing the finish line at 3:42:48.

In the Half Ironman, Takeshi Ito of Japan secured his first win at 5:18:04. Finishing second was Takayuki Hosuyama with a time of 6:06:15, and securing third was Masato Ikeda, who clocked in at 6:11:41. In the female division, first place went to Hiroko Ashikawa with a time of 5:53:59. Ashikawa was followed by Ms. Atsuko Minakata with a time of 5:54:43 and Noriko Kojima in 6:11:27.

MVA

Taro Shirato, left, and Hideya Miyazuka finished first and second, respectively, in the 22nd Annual Rota Blue Triathlon last Nov. 7, 2015.

MVA

Swimmers take to Sasanhayan Bay in the 22nd Annual Rota Blue Triathlon was held on Nov. 7, 2015.

"This year's Rota Blue was another success," said Marianas Visitors Authority Community Projects manager Martin Duenas. "There were no injuries and everyone enjoyed the race."

The event commenced at 6:30am at the East Harbor in Rota. Thirty-four participants entered the A Type and 36 entered in the Half Ironman. The awards banquet was held at the Rota Round House at 6pm with an island-style dinner on the same day as the event. Rota Mayor Efrain Atalig and Duenas delivered short remarks and presented the prizes to the top finishers in the overall and the age division for both male and female divisions.

According to Duenas, this will be the last triathlon on Rota that KFC Triathlon will be sponsoring; next year they will sponsor a biathlon, featuring swim and run legs. This is partially due to the expense of flying race bicycles to the event.

Additional supporters and sponsors included Department of Public Safety, Emergency Management Office, Ruben Dive Shop, Mark Michael Dive Rota, Rota Resort and Spa, Pacific Development, Inc., and the people of Rota. ***(MVA)***

## JUDITH'S

*From Page 28*

onds of the finals.

Despite facing a double-digit deficit, GMI Market refused to give up and remained in contention when Greg Sablan knocked in a left corner triple. He also attempted another trey from the right key after Judith's fumbled on the other end, but missed. He was fouled though, but made only one free throw, while Malonzo went 2-for-2 in the ensuing play to seal the deal for Judith's.

The loss to Judith's in the finals was the lone defeat GMI Market absorbed in the league.

Judith's controlled the match right from the get-go after getting solid production from its starters. Espinosa, Flores, Mike Arciaga, and Mike Muna combined for 22 of the team's 24 points in the first quarter to take an 8-point lead at the end of the first frame, 24-16. Ronnie Sto. Domingo scored the other 2 points for Judith's.

Judith's extended the lead to twin digits at halftime, 43-33, and threatened to pull away midway in the third, 59-42, with Malonzo drilling 9 of his total points in that period. Judith's relaxed a bit after establishing its biggest lead in the game, allowing GMI Market to mount a comeback late in the third.

GMI Market launched a 13-2 run bridging the last three minutes of the third period and the first one and a half of the fourth to slice the deficit to single digits, 55-61. Alipio capped the rally with a triple, his second in a row in the final canto.

However, Judith's regained its composure, dropping a short 6-0 run off Malonzo's pair of charities and Espinosa and Muna's field goals for a 67-55 advantage, going into the last seven minutes of the match. Judith's still won the exchange in the next two minutes for a baker's dozen lead, 72-59, but Cruz and Borja joined forces in another GMI Market rally to bring the lead down to as low as 4 before falling short in the end.

GMI Market played catch up the whole time in the finale, as it failed to find the right player combination that could keep up with Judith's.

Espinosa paced Judith's with his 22 points, while Flores added 12 and Malonzo and Arciaga contributed 12 and 11, respectively. Cruz led GMI Market with his 23 points, while Borja chipped in 21. Djay Ong was the third GMI Market player to finish in twin digits with his 10 point, but he could not get his rhythm as he was in and out of the game.

### Finals

**Judith's 82** – Espinosa 22, Flores 15, Malonzo 12, Arciaga 11, Factor 7, Muna 6, Sto. Domingo 4, Iglecias 3, Kim 2.

**GMI Market 74** – Cruz 23, Borja 21, Ong 10, G. Sablan 8, Alipio 6, Kintaro 4, Snech 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 24-16, 43-33, 61-49, 82-74.

### Consolation

**Ferrera 75** – Castro 19, C. Bondoc 18, Toves 13, Javier 11, F. Bondoc 10, Leyco 2, Lee 2.

**Sonics 59** – Borromeo 14, Salalila 10, Diyco 8, Muna 6, Fidelino 4, De Guzman 4, Aque 4, Ignobay 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 21-14, 36-26, 51-41, 75-59.

## EXPLOSIVE

*From Page 28*

14-bout roster with a victory over Team Zalaka's Denny Jepen via doctor stoppage in a K1 event.

Santos was the more aggressive fighter as he kept on attacking Jepen's defense that somewhat threw his opponent out of his game plan as he failed to utilize his height and reach advantage against the Guam bet. Jepen stands 5'8" against the 5'4" Santos and has a 68-inch reach compared to the latter's 64.

Santos pounded Jepen with a number of combinations with of his punches managing to open a cut on his foe's right eyebrow.

Jepen managed to survive the barrage after one round, but the doctor— in the 2:39 mark of the second—advised referee Shane "Sonic Boom" Alvarez to discontinue the fight so Jepen can avoid serious injury since they could not stop the bleeding from a gash on his eyebrow anymore.

Three more K1 fights followed with the heavyweight bout between the debuting C.J. "The Beast" Noket of UMA Guam and Ken Santos of StrikeForce MMA going to the scorecards.

The Barrigada-born Noket completed a unanimous decision win over Santos after all three judges saw the fight in his favor. Two of the judges scored the fight at 30-27, while the other one saw it 29-28.

Albert "Baby Sanchai" Andrea made it three straight for the visiting Guam fighters as the Guam Muay Thai bet showed he has the better stamina after he beat a visibly tired Derick "Hotshot" Naog of Team Zalaka.

Referee Alvarez stopped the fight with still 1:19 left in the third round after Naog was no longer retaliating against Andrea's attacks.

The final K1 bout was a grudge match between Phil David of Shockbox and TrenchTech/StrikeForce's Kier "The Radical Kid" Agda. Before the start of the fight, promoter Alvarez reminded both warriors to leave whatever their grudge inside the eight-sides.

David and Agda did not disappoint the fans as both of them came out swinging and throwing everything in their respective arsenals in the hopes of getting a quick win.

The match also went to the scorecards with Agda securing a split decision victory. Two of the judges gave the fight to Agda, 29-28 and 30-27, while the other saw it at 29-28 in favor of David.

It was the flyweight's turn after that with Trench Tech's A.J. "Smalls" Aldan kicking off the nine undercard mixed martial arts bouts with a victory over Zalaka's Timothy Salas.

Aldan earned the win via verbal submission after Salas could no longer continue before the start of the third round.

Rota bet Juan Lizama of GroundFu Guam earned a victory over T.J. "Knuckles" Tudela in the 1:01 mark of the second round by rear-naked choke.

Giovanni Taitingfong of Vida Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu defeated Down2Scrap's Jadrien Camacho by tap out after the former used a triangle to force his opponent to submission with 2:14 left in the first round.

Other results of Trench Warz 19: No Turning Back will be published on tomorrow's issue of the *Saipan Tribune*.

## HERAS

*From Page 28*

crown after topping the six-player field. The top-ranked player drew a bye in the opening round and eased her way through the semifinals following a 6-0, 6-0 win against Susan Sablan, 6-4, 6-2. Sablan earned the right to challenge Kaga after ousting Sunny Hyun, 6-0, 6-0.

Following her semis sweep against Sablan, Kaga faced No. 2 seed Erika Tuttle in the finals and the top-ranked Kaga won, 6-3, 6-4, to get the division crown which she missed last year after losing to older sister Conatsu. Before bowing to Coume, Tuttle defeated Michelle Ryu in the semis, 6-1, 6-0, while the latter downed Anika Camacho, 6-2, 6-1, to march into the semifinals.

Ryu dropped to the consolation game, which Sablan won, 8-2, to join Coume and Tuttle in the Top 3. The Top 3 finishers in the opening week of the two-weekend tournament will be honored in the awards banquet this Sunday at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort.

Miyawaki is among the top awardees as she notched the girls U14 singles crown following a 6-3, 6-3 victory over Conatsu in their title game at the Hyatt Regency Saipan courts last Sunday. Miyawaki was the No. 1 seed in the nine-player draw and had to gain two wins to make it to the finals. She posted a 6-2, 6-1 win over Maria Gregoire, a 6-2, 6-2 victor over Guam's Joycelyn Tenai, to move into the semis. In the Final Four, Miyawaki faced a tougher opponent in Coume, as the former needed three sets to thwart the latter, 3-6, 6-2, 10-1.

Coume advanced to the semis after beating Merletti, 6-0, 6-1, while her sibling Conatsu topped Riko Ojima in the quarterfinals, 6-0, 6-1, and stunned second-ranked Asia Raulerson in the semis, 6-0, 6-2, to force a finals showdown against Miyawaki. Raulerson redeemed herself after the upset loss with an 8-2 win over Coume in the consolation match.

Meanwhile, results in the boys U12 and U16 singles along with the junior doubles events will be reported in *Saipan Tribune*'s Wednesday issue.

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### NBA STANDINGS

**EASTERN CONFERENCE**

**Atlantic Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Toronto | 11 | 7 | .611 | — |
| Boston | 9 | 8 | .529 | 1½ |
| New York | 8 | 10 | .444 | 3 |
| Brooklyn | 4 | 13 | .235 | 6½ |
| Philadelphia | 0 | 18 | .000 | 11 |

**Southeast Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Miami | 10 | 5 | .667 | — |
| Charlotte | 10 | 7 | .588 | 1 |
| Atlanta | 11 | 8 | .579 | 1 |
| Orlando | 9 | 8 | .529 | 2 |
| Washington | 6 | 8 | .429 | 3½ |

**Central Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cleveland | 13 | 4 | .765 | — |
| Indiana | 11 | 5 | .688 | 1½ |
| Chicago | 9 | 5 | .643 | 2½ |
| Detroit | 8 | 9 | .471 | 5 |
| Milwaukee | 6 | 11 | .353 | 7 |

**WESTERN CONFERENCE**

**Southwest Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| San Antonio | 14 | 3 | .824 | — |
| Dallas | 10 | 7 | .588 | 4 |
| Memphis | 10 | 8 | .556 | 4½ |
| Houston | 7 | 10 | .412 | 7 |
| New Orleans | 4 | 13 | .235 | 10 |

**Northwest Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Oklahoma City | | 11 | 6 | .647— |
| Utah | 8 | 7 | .533 | 2 |
| Minnesota | 8 | 9 | .471 | 3 |
| Portland | 7 | 10 | .412 | 4 |
| Denver | 6 | 11 | .353 | 5 |

**Pacific Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Golden State | 18 | 0 | 1.000 | — |
| L.A. Clippers | 9 | 8 | .529 | 8½ |
| Phoenix | 8 | 9 | .471 | 9½ |
| Sacramento | 6 | 12 | .333 | 12 |
| L.A. Lakers | 2 | 14 | .125 | 15 |

### NFL STANDINGS

**AMERICAN CONFERENCE**

**East**

| | W | L | T | Pct | PF | PA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| New England | 10 | 1 | 0 | .909 | 347 | 212 |
| N.Y. Jets | 6 | 5 | 0 | .545 | 272 | 228 |
| Buffalo | 5 | 6 | 0 | .455 | 266 | 257 |
| Miami | 4 | 7 | 0 | .364 | 225 | 287 |

**South**

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Indianapolis | 6 | 5 | 0 | .545 | 249 | 260 |
| Houston | 6 | 5 | 0 | .545 | 232 | 234 |
| Jacksonville | 4 | 7 | 0 | .364 | 236 | 299 |
| Tennessee | 2 | 9 | 0 | .182 | 203 | 257 |

**North**

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cincinnati | 9 | 2 | 0 | .818 | 297 | 193 |
| Pittsburgh | 6 | 5 | 0 | .545 | 266 | 230 |
| Baltimore | 3 | 7 | 0 | .300 | 226 | 249 |
| Cleveland | 2 | 8 | 0 | .200 | 186 | 277 |

**West**

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Denver | 9 | 2 | 0 | .818 | 252 | 207 |
| Kansas City | 6 | 5 | 0 | .545 | 287 | 220 |
| Oakland | 5 | 6 | 0 | .455 | 264 | 280 |
| San Diego | 3 | 8 | 0 | .273 | 244 | 307 |

**NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

**East**

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Washington | 5 | 6 | 0 | .455 | 241 | 267 |
| N.Y. Giants | 5 | 6 | 0 | .455 | 287 | 273 |
| Philadelphia | 4 | 7 | 0 | .364 | 243 | 274 |
| Dallas | 3 | 8 | 0 | .273 | 204 | 261 |

**South**

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Carolina | 11 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 332 | 205 |
| Atlanta | 6 | 5 | 0 | .545 | 260 | 234 |
| Tampa Bay | 5 | 6 | 0 | .455 | 248 | 279 |
| New Orleans | 4 | 7 | 0 | .364 | 261 | 339 |

**North**

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Minnesota | 8 | 3 | 0 | .727 | 231 | 194 |
| Green Bay | 7 | 4 | 0 | .636 | 262 | 215 |
| Chicago | 5 | 6 | 0 | .455 | 231 | 264 |
| Detroit | 4 | 7 | 0 | .364 | 230 | 288 |

**West**

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Arizona | 9 | 2 | 0 | .818 | 355 | 229 |
| Seattle | 6 | 5 | 0 | .545 | 267 | 222 |
| St. Louis | 4 | 7 | 0 | .364 | 186 | 230 |
| San Francisco | 3 | 8 | 0 | .273 | 152 | 271 |

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# GCA marches into semifinals

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Grace Christian Academy eased its way into the semifinals of both the girls and boys high school divisions of the 2015-2016 Coalition of Private Schools Sports Association Volleyball League after sweeping Agape Christian School yesterday at the Eagles court in Navy Hill.

The Lady Eagles played first and cruised to a 25-10, 25-8 win over ACS to arrange a semis duel against the second-seeded Mt. Carmel School 1.

In the boys high school division, GCA also needed only two sets to eliminate Agape, 25-7, 25-9, and earn the right to face second-ranked Saipan International School 1 in the semifinals.

The two matches at the GCA court marked the start of the playoff round in the league. Two other games were played at the beginning of the playoffs yesterday, but results were unavailable at press time. SIS 2 was scheduled to face MCS 2 in the girls high school match at the Geckos turf, which also hosted the SIS 2 and SIS 3 pairing in the boys high school.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Grace Christian Academy coach Mark Robles huddles with his players after they won against Agape Christian School in the boys high school division of the COPSSA volleyball league yesterday at the Eagles court in Navy Hill.

The winner of the SIS 2-MCS 2 tiff will meet No. 1 seed SIS 1 in the semifinals tomorrow at the Whispering Palms court in Navy Hill, while the victor of the all-SIS match in the boys high school will square off against top-ranked MCS 1 also this Wednesday at the Geckos court.

The boys high school finals will then be played this Thursday at Whispering Palms' court at 4:15pm, while the girls high school title match is set this Friday at the same venue and time. Whispering Palms will also host the co-ed middle school championship game.

Playoff matches in the middle school will begin today with Top 2 finishers SIS 1 and Seventh Day Adventist getting byes in the opening round.

The eight other squads will have their opening matches at the various school courts. At the SIS turf, SIS 3 will take one Whispering Palms at 3:30pm with the winner battling SIS 1 in the quarterfinals. Over at SDA, Saipan Community School 2 will fight SIS 2 at 3:30pm with the victor dueling SDA at 4:30pm.

The other first round pairings will have Agape versus SCS 1 at the former's court and GCA against MCS at the Eagles' turf. Both matches will begin at 3:30pm and the pair of semis games this Thursday will have the same starts time and will be played at Whispering Palms.

# NMI MMA fighters off to PXC Guam

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Three CNMI mixed martial arts fighters left Saipan last Saturday evening with the hopes of returning with wins in their respective bouts in the Pacific Xtreme Combat 50 this Friday at the University of Guam Calvo Fieldhouse in Mangilao.

Cousins Roman "Boom" and Shane "Pikaboo" Alvarez and Josh "Chaos" Duenas will be facing separate foes in the undercard of two main title fights that feature Frank "The Crank" Camacho (17-3) going up against Tyrone "Bones" Jones (5-4) for the vacant PXC lightweight belt.

Camacho and Jones will be fighting for the 155-lb title vacated by Japan's Chuji Kato, who retired after beating Glen Ranillo in PXC 46 last Nov. 15, 2014. PXC featherweight titleholder Yusuke Yachi (13-4) will also be defending his belt against Alex Volkanovski (10-1) in the other title fight.

Roman Alvarez, the reigning Trench Warz 145-lb champion remains undefeated after seven fights including three wins by knockout. He is also 3-0 in PXC and hopes to keep it that way when he faces Mark Abelardo (11-4, 6 KOs) in the bantamweight class.

His latest win was against Ernie Braca in PXC 48 after the Filipino warrior was disqualified for kicking a grounded fighter on the head.

Abelardo, born in New Zealand to Filipino parents, lost his last match inside the PXC Terrordome when he suffered a unanimous decision defeat to Trevin Jones in PXC 49 last Aug. 7.

Alvarez's cousin Shane (11-2, 3 KOs) will take on replacement fighter Yutaro Muramoto (2-1) of Japan in a flyweight match after his countryman Kentaro Watanabe (10-7, 3 KOs) suddenly pulled out.

Both Shane and Muramoto have won their respective last bouts with the former scoring a submission win by rear-naked choke over Jessie Rafols (8-5, 1 KO) in last August's PXC 49, while the Japanese bet defeated compatriot Keni Yamanaka by KO (flying knee) in Tribe Tokyo Challenge 5 last September.

Duenas (4-5, 1 KO), on the other hand, will be climbing the Terrordome for the first time since a unanimous decision loss to Crisanto Pitpitunge in PXC 44 on June 27 last year.

That was Duenas' third straight loss in the PXC and he hopes to end his misfortunes against New Zealand's Kai Cara-France (10-5, 5 KOs) in the featherweight division.

Duenas, who hasn't fought for a year since losing to Pitpitunge, is also a replacement fighter after Vince "The Clinch" Masga had to pull out when he suffered a concussion while training for his fight

JON PEREZ
From left, Roman Alvarez, Josh Duenas, and Shane Alvarez show their fine form after one of their training sessions at the Trench Tech Gym in Garapan. The three will be seeing action against separate opponents in Friday's Pacific Xtreme Combat 50 at the University of Guam Calvo Fieldhouse.

# Volunteers help rehab Hyatt beach courts

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Volunteers made a helpful contribution to the CNMI beach volleyball community by rehabilitating the sand courts of the Hyatt Regency Saipan last weekend.

Former national team coach Russ Quinn, multisport athlete Tyce Mister, Northern Mariana Islands Volleyball Association board member Sean Frink, and Chris Nelson were the volunteers that spruced up the sand court.

NMIVA president Laurie Peterka thanked the four volunteers who helped restore the Hyatt sand court to its original form.

The quartet used a rototiller, a machine that has rotating blades used for tilling the soil, since hard spots had already formed on the sand court. The rototiller broke up the hard spots on the court.

They also replaced the wooden dowels in both nets and at the same time reset the anchors that hold the lines on the courts.

Peterka added that the volunteers replaced the attachment cables and hardware for the nets, while also adding new tension lines to keep the net stretched tight.

Quinn and company also put additional sand at the center of the court to keep the middle portion flat with NMIVA providing the activities and court maintenance materials.

Quinn will also run a beach volleyball clinic for adults with a four-week lesson plan for $25.

All proceeds of the clinic will go to NMIVA and a portion of it would also support the maintenance program at the Hyatt sand courts.

The maintenance of the Hyatt sand courts is just right in time for NMIVA's beach volleyball tournament set on Dec. 27.

Peterka said the tournament will either be held at the Hyatt or at the Fiesta Resort & Spa beachfront sandcourts.

She added that more information will be released days before the opening of the tournament, which will be NMIVA's final event for 2015.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Volleyball coach Kathy Winkfield, left, records how many balls landed inside the court in last month's serving rally in one of the fundraising events of the Northern Mariana Islands Volleyball Association for the CNMI girls all-star team.

**Kobe scores 13 after announcement, but Pacers beat Lakers**

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

**GCA marches into semifinals**

PAGE 27

# Judith's tops GMI Market in finale

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Judith's Hot Boys showed poise in the homestretch to pull off an 82-74 victory against GMI Market in their winner-take-all finale in the U18 division of the 2015 San Antonio Community Action Network Basketball League last Sunday night at the San Antonio court.

Judith's Hot Boys squandered a 17-point lead in the third quarter but managed to withstand GMI Market's rally in the end behind the clutch baskets of Mike Espinosa, Gerald Flores, and Irvyn Malonzo to clinch the division crown in the inaugural league.

Espinosa's undergoal stab off his own miss gave Judith's more cushion after GMI Market came within 4, 70-74, off split free throws from Jethro Cruz, with still 2:13 left on the clock. GMI Market had several chances to move closer when Judith's faltered in its next few plays, however the former also failed to hit baskets in its next three possessions. June Alipio's threw an errant crosscourt pass to Cruz and the former later missed a point-blanked shot, while Ignacio Borja muffed a put-back.

Judith's finally collared the rebound and took some time before pulling up for a shot. With only a few seconds left on the 24-second shot clock, Espinosa drove to the baseline, but his floater fell short. Fortunately, he won the battle for the loose ball and this time banked it in, giving Judith's a 76-70 lead, 46.5 seconds remaining in the game.

Espinosa added two more free throws after another GMI Market botched offensive set and an open layup from Flores made it a 10-point advantage, 80-70, down to the last 25 sec-

See JUDITH'S on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Judith's Hot Boys' Gerald Flores challenges the defense of GMI Market's Ignacio Borja during their title game in the U18 division of the San Antonio caging last Sunday at the San Antonio court.

## Explosive fights rock Trench Warz 19

JON PEREZ
Rota's Juan Lizama of GroundFu Guam, back, slowly sneaks in a rear-naked chokehold against Team Sonic's T.J. "Knuckles" Tudela in one of the nine undercard bouts of last Friday night's Trench Warz 19: No Turning Back at the Saipan World Resort's Royal Taga Hall.

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Trench Tech fight promoter Cuki Alvarez really knows how to throw a party for local mixed martial arts fight fans, as he treated them to an explosive night of non-stop action in last Friday's Trench Warz 19: No Turning Back.

But before the action started, a moment of silence was observed for the victims of last month's terrorist attack in Paris and to all of those affected by the onslaught of Typhoon Soudelor.

Alvarez, celebrating his birthday on the same day, cooked up a lineup composed of four K1 bouts and nine undercard fights that served as an appetizer for the Andrew "Top Gun" Sablan-Mark "The Dark" Nuique headliner, with the former beating the latter by rear-naked choke in a non-title bout.

Jayvin "The Prodigy" Santos, one of two Ultimate Martial Arts Guam bets who saw action, opened up the night's

See EXPLOSIVE on Page 26

# Heras delivers in girls U16 singles

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Top-ranked Isabel Heras lived up to expectations after winning the girls U16 singles championships in the 7th Annual Tan Holdings Tennis Classic last Sunday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan tennis courts.

Heras clinched the division crown after sweeping the second-seeded Tania Tan in finals, 6-4, 6-4. Heras arranged the title duel against Tan following a 6-1, 6-3 semis triumph over Ami Tsukagoshi, who advanced to the Final Four after eliminating Guam's Alyssa Merletti, 6-1, 6-2, last Friday in the upper half of the draw.

At the lower half, Tan also took only two sets to prevail in her semifinals match against Mimi Sakano, 6-2, 6-3.

Sakano, on the other hand, shut down Guam's Victoria Smith to barge into the semis and the former went on to settle for third place after beating Tsukagoshi in the consolation match last Sunday, 8-2.

Meanwhile, Coume Kaga and Malika Miyawaki completed the girls singles champions circle in the 2015 edition of the annual tournament after ruling their respective divisions.

Kaga bagged the girls U12

See HERAS on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Isabel Heras stretches for a baseline return to Ami Tsukagoshi during their semis game in the girls U16 singles division of the 7th Annual Tan Holdings Tennis Classic last Sunday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan tennis courts.